

THE HOMELESS: Small Solutions • BANKING: Why Matthew Barrett Left

Maclea's

CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

MARCH 8, 1999

Reinventing Alanis

A Canadian pop star
speaks her mind on
rage, love, sex and
the onslaught
of fame

By Brian D. Johnson



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CANADA'S WEEKLY NEWSMAGAZINE

This Week

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Former indie darling Jewel superto-star Alanis Morissette has found a new way to express herself. Meanwhile, Jimi Jamison, Grammys where she is, Sarah McLachlan and Shania Twain picked up two awards each, showed Canadian ones virtually rule the world of female pop



Features



SPECIAL REPORT

16 Small solutions

In cities across the country, community groups are struggling with limited resources to respond to the exploding national epidemic of homelessness.



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Fighting back

Heroin and pain killed four members of George Chakko's family. Now the boxer who once stood up to Muhammad Ali is talking about his personal tragedy: Is there any sort of the perks of living drugs?



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Why he left

Matthew Barrie, the charismatic CEO of the Bank of Montreal announced last week that he was passing the torch. Was this his era or was he given a nudge?

From The Editor

A season of renewal



It has been a season of new faces and new assignments at Maclean's. An update for readers:

This week, Senior Business Correspondent Ryan Laver is in California, part of his new mandate to explore the international impact of high-tech and high finance on Canadians. Laver also will continue to write his weekly column on business, he recently supervised the publication of the *Maclean's Guide to Personal Finance*. Taking over responsibility for the business section is Assistant Managing Editor Anna Downie Johnson.

James Deacon, a senior editor of the magazine, is now responsible for the life section, which covers trends in society, the workplace and relationships. His first section cover story was last week's package on working women ("The mother load?"). Deacon will also continue as Sports Editor.

Three other key departures also are in fresh hands: James Deacon, a six-year veteran of the magazine, is now responsible for the life section, which covers trends in society, the workplace and relationships. His first section cover story was last week's package on working women ("The mother load?"). Deacon will also continue as Sports Editor.

Barbara Wickett, in her 14th year with the magazine, will serve as acting Entertainment Editor while Senior Editor Patricia Hickey is on maternity leave. Wickett, who edited this week's cover art about Marais Marais, has been editor of the People and Opening Notes sections and a business and lifestyles writer. Deacon and Wickett report to Executive Editor Bob Levin, who also serves as the weekly issue manager overseeing all copy in the magazine.

John Schafele moves from the Business section to become Education Editor, replacing Robert Shippard who becomes a Senior Writer on general assignment. Reporting to Assistant Managing Editor Ann Downie Johnson, Schafele will be responsible for regular coverage of the education beat as well as being involved in planning and executing Maclean's annual ranking of universities.

The education department also produces two popular annuals, the *Guide to Canadian Colleges*, now in sale, and the upcoming *Guide to Canadian Universities*, both of which profile institutions of higher learning in Canada.

Health and medicine also are a vital part of the regular Maclean's schedule. In early summer, Assistant Managing Editor Robert Marshall and his team will produce the first comprehensive report card on hospital care in major Canadian cities—at least in those provinces if that share our belief that taxpayers deserve access to information on the quality of health care.

Meanwhile, Digital Editor Robert Scott is hard at work preparing for a relaunch of the Maclean's Web site. In the weeks ahead, we will be announcing details of special new benefits and access for subscribers. A season of renewal is well under way.

Robert Lepage

Need a break? or search of answers

someone with a mental problem or an addiction—the old-fashioned street drunks. In fact, in most cities they are still in a minority." In Calgary, Blood discovered, nearly half of the homeless have jobs. Many promising initiatives are already under way.

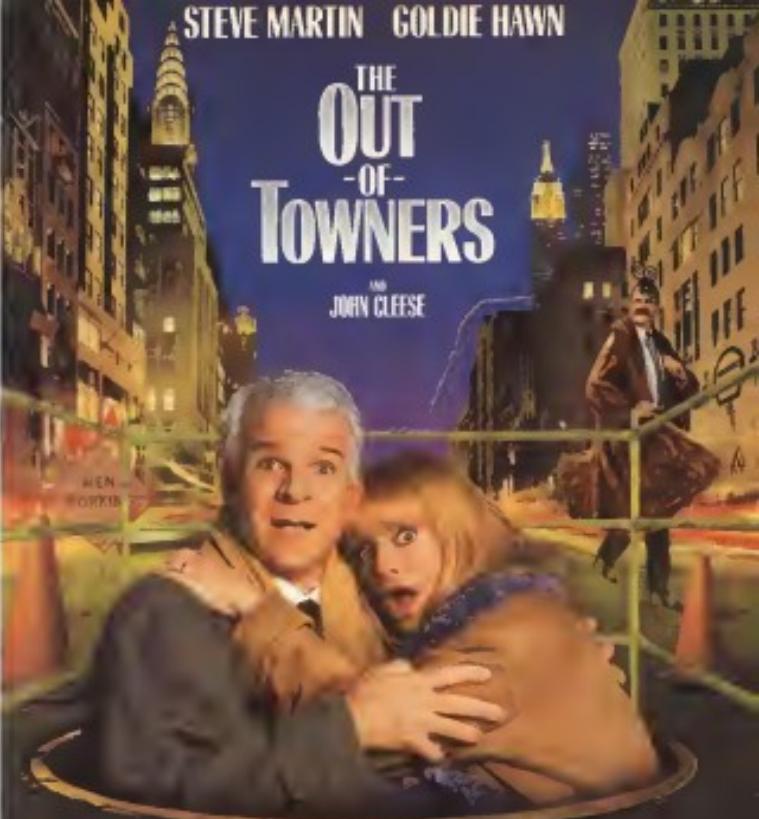


The homeless in Vancouver, Calgary, Winnipeg and Toronto. "The stereotype of the homeless person," says Wood, "is

Newsroom Notes:

At home on the street

In many Canadian cities, the homeless are an increasingly common, if distressing, sight. To prepare this week's special report (page 16), Vancouver Bureau Chief Chris Wood spent two weeks researching, interviewing and visiting services for



They fell in love 24 years ago... and in the next 24 hours, they'll remember why.

THREE POINT PICTURES PRESENTS ROBERT PALTROW PRODUCED BY CHRISTOPHER LEVY WRITTEN AND DIRECTED BY CHRIS MADDEN MUSIC BY JIM MYERS

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The Mail

Men's health issues

Your cover report ("Men's health") (Feb. 22) was a welcome and long-overdue piece of journalism, but I was disappointed you neglected the entire field of men's reproductive health. Even in this day and age, sex is as much a matter of procreation as recreation. Contraceptive issues provide considerable discord among couples and unengaged pregnancies exact a heavy toll on the coronary arteries of many men and women. With the modern no-scalpel vasectomy, pain complications, adverse effects and other bizarre stories of legend are virtually non-existent. Despite more than 30 per cent of vasectomies performed in the United States in 1995 being no-scalpel, the technique remains underappreciated in many Canadian centres.



Dr. Barry Rethel,
Honolulu

You mention briefly male menopause or an "droopause" (Calling the men "menopausal"). I would like to point out that there is a blood test to diagnose andropause. It is the same sort of "free" and "bioavailable" testosterone. Those that your story will stimulate the formation of a men's health movement in Canada.

Dr. Jim Morris-Rivlin,
Gatineau

I would suggest to read that men with prostate cancer feel threatened by the government, leading that is going to breast cancer and feel they should receive equal funding for their disease ("Confounding the science?") During worked long and hard, together with thousands of women with breast cancer, to raise over funding \$45 million over the next five years from the federal government. I quite agree depressed that men with prostate cancer should be eligible as the money I agree that prostate cancer is on

defended, especially when you look at what the federal government is spending on AIDS. So, prostate cancer guys, don't feel up on us gals with breast cancer—we have enough to worry about. Take your male entrepreneurs in the powerful AIDS lobby to task myself.

Dr. Maria Diaz
Barcelona

It seems funny to me how you can write about men writing their foreheads back just as it were such a popular thing. You make it sound as though so many men are at such a great loss because they have no foreheads. In fact, today men get circumcised later in life to help improve their sex lives and many of them with that had a drop sooner. I would suggest that you at least consider showing two sides to this issue and start trying to start some kind of emotional roller-coaster that will eventually guide a number of unstable and immature males into thinking their because sexual ability have been ruined because they haven't a forehead.

Mark Dunn Jr.
Montreal, N.B.

Your cover story sure hit a nerve in this household. I sense of the thousands of sexually satisfied-in-birth men mentioned who is quickly and non-surgically reconstructing

his foreskin. It was good to see a national magazine mention that we are not here—"frazzled." Although not yet finished, the improvement in the quality of sex for me and my partner over others is remarkable. At age 57, my restored sex life is better than it was at 20. If more women knew what they were missing, they would demand their own get full coverage. If more men knew what they have been missing out on all these years, they would demand retribution. I have felt terribly to get behind me the sadness and anger over what was done to my sex life.

Gary Rutherford
Topeka, Colo.

I went through an episode of clinical depression requiring hospitalization six years ago when I was 40. It was the most terrible event of my life. I agree that depression is likely caused by a chemical imbalance in the brain and drugs may be needed in the short term to restore that balance. For me, however, the chemical imbalance lessened as I learned to regain control of my thoughts, emotions and resulting behavior through cognitive, emotional and biofeedback methods. I discovered after studying self-help materials available at public and college libraries and through the Canadian Mental Health Association that could ditch the anxiolytic drug Prozac. And knowing that

More Known
Truths

The Y2K problem

A Ian Fotheringham, why do you purists act as if the nerds and geeks whose ignorance caused the Y2K problem ("We held the Y2K bag—average of nerds and geeks,"

I) had compared the "black dog" by using my own mental resources for the instead of against me was truly embarrassing.

Bob Moore
Downey, Ala.

Although I agree there's no change in suffering from depression, I'm troubled by the current emphasis on a neurophysiological model and by Dick Smith's statement ("It is in a chemical imbalance in the brain"). It seems to me this attitude is an abrogation of personal responsibility and, more important, disempowering. Certainly, antidepressants are valuable in helping people to get out of danger and grounded enough to do the psychological work necessary to lead. I like to think, however, that those of us suffering from depression have the potential to eventually be free of medication. Taking ownership and control of the difficult internal work is my responsibility, but also my right.

Mark Knutson
Austin

Jan 25? Or did they know what they were doing and yet continue to manufacture and market defective products? If it had been the manufacturing of an automobile or pharmaceutical company, they would have been obliged to make a massive recall or face enormous lawsuits by those institutions that have had to hire experts and go to the law to recover damages. Where are the lawyers?

L.A. Cummings
Winnipeg, Ont.

Military sponsorship

Charles Gordon's concern about corporate sponsorships is unfounded ("We longitudinal the Trojan Horse?" Another View, March 11). We have a long history of sponsoring, especially in the military. I urge your attention to the Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry and the Princess Louise Fusiliers. Given that each generates with a military base are now in short supply, why not seek commercial backing for our troops? As a former Mariner who was an infantryman in the Sea and World War, I would have been proud to serve in K.C. Irving's Motorized Dragoons or Sidney's Light Infantry. What better youth would not have been pleased to serve us, with aplomb, in the back of Mounties' light



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THE MAIL

Chameaux? The Royal Lethbridge Regiment would have been a natural for the men of Ontario and the Canadian Pacific Horse Rangers would have had no trouble abducting all the troops they needed from their ranks of young newsmen in whom the love of Empire was strong. Across the mountains, no regiment could have been more popular than MacLachlan's Mackintosh Hussars. I note, therefore, that Gordon cast his concern in shade. Let a get-on-with-it: the horse they're a-changin'. Sighs.

Brent J. Charkiewicz
Vancouver

make a private visit to Jordan and express the condolences of the people of Canada. Water is not under the bridge yet.

Svenn Kort,
Belleville, B.C.

I guess that the "Little Guy from Shawshank" doesn't have what it takes to play with the "Big Boys in the Big League." Canadians deserve better.

Douglas R. McLean,
Pinecrest, B.C.

Split-run magazines

Regarding Bill C-65 and so-called U.S. split-run magazines ("A fight at the wheel" [Feb. 28], and more)—I happen to believe that the editorial content of a magazine is the product's labour component. After that, it's just paper, press time and marketing expense. Forget for a moment the position of Canadian magazines and Canadian culture. Imagine the has and cry if the American news media were a Canadian firm to export a product for sale in the United States, that had little or no labour cost, thereby enabling it to severely undercut the price of its competitors. If Canada does not stand firm on this issue, we might as well resign ourselves to total domination by the United States cultural as well as economic.

Peter Perry
Calgary, Alta.

Christie, will have to express condolences of Canadians

Small lies are OK?

Let me be sure I have learned right the lesson to be drawn from the conclusion of the Monica Lewinsky/Bill Clinton imbroglio ("Playback time," World, Feb. 23). It must, after all, have an important bearing on what we teach our young people. A person will not be punished by the courts (from the Congress of the United States) for lying so long as the lie was small enough. The issue was, surely, never whether Clinton lied but whether the use of the lie justified removing him from office. Thus our young people should learn that lying is all right so long as the transgression is not too large. In the eyes of the majority of the people of the United States, it is permissible for the President to be a scoundrel and a liar so long as he does a good job of being President. So I can teach young doctors that

Repairing diplomacy

Yes, everything that Bruce Wallace says in his column "Admiral at the wheel" [Feb. 28], and more—happened. Prime Minister Jean Chrétien could also have asked former prime minister Joe



Chrétien, will have to express condolences of Canadians

Clark to attend King Hasselhoff's funeral in his absence. But he did. King Hasselhoff's death is an irreversible tragedy. But the inability of the Prime Minister to attend his funeral is a miserable diplomatic fiasco. I know it allows only 24 hours to perform a funeral, but it also allows a formal period of 40 days to mourn and comfort the family. Our Prime Minister and his wife can still

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

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The Odd Squad

Your article about Vancouver police officers known as the Odd Squad and their desire to show film of drug users to high school kids ("Taping the barbie," Television, Feb. 22) brought back memories of 30 years ago. My youngest son, Dean, was in Grade 1 when his school showed a film on what smoking does to your lungs. When he got home, he destroyed a fresh carton of cigarettes my wife had just bought for me. On my arming home and finding more cigarettes, I finally found them in the garbage can. When asked why he had done it, he said, "Smoking will kill you." After cooling down, I realized that whatever my six-year-old had been shown must have been serious. Dean and I made a deal that I would tell him he would never get smoking. I have not smoked in 29-1/2 years and Dean never started. Get Through a Blue Line shows so many schools and people as possible and the film may help save many lives and avoid serious health problems for others. Congratulations to Vancouver police officers Al Arsenault and Timy Harton.

Bruce Wiesner,
Saskatoon, Sask.

It is all right to have extramarital relations, I say to those who do so long as they are good physicians. How else is right?

Dr. William G. Green,
Toronto, Ont.

The next time an American political party sets out to elect a president, they should have a supply of mugs—not barbs.

Howard W. French
Montreal

U.S. President Bill Clinton deserves a special award as best actor of the year (as well, what category would you say? drama? tragic? comedy? farce? history?) And the envelope, please:

Zevya Zysman,
Anchorage

Good government

The solution of lowering taxes in order to prepare for the future ("Future shock," Cover, Feb. 23) is non-sensical. The social problems you predict can only be resolved by inflations of money into the right places at the right times, and only government has the resources, mandate and compelling interest to do the job. What other social mechanism exists to ensure that the aged on list in dignity, first socially licensed research and development can be instituted and that income can be redistributed sufficiently to

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ensure that Canada remains an essentially middle-class society. Certainly, globalisation or the market or even high economic growth will not provide such benefits. At the beginning of the century, Wilfrid Laurier claimed it would belong to Canada, and at the end it seems that the United Nations agrees. But if the Canadian high standard of living and social cohesion were achieved by making an experiment in government work (though not without difficulties) and not by developing the only force that moves us as citizens and employees, rather than consumers and wage slaves.

David E. Armstrong,
Austin, Tex.

Using figures from the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development to compare U.S. and Canadian taxes with oil, comparing the services provided is misleading. In the United States, we pay through premiums we feel a good deal of what Canadians pay through taxes. Our family's health insurance premiums cost us \$6,038 (U.S.) last year—and we still had additional co-payments for services. Provincial public universities are higher than in Canada, and private colleges generally charge \$50,000 or more per year. Services still have to be paid for. Canadians pay more through public taxes, but Americans pay more through what amounts to private taxes.

David Mervin,
Mont Pleasant, Mich.

PCBs in the tar ponds

There are not, as stated in your recent article, 90,000 tons of persistent PCBs in the tar ponds in Sudbury, N.B., ("Sudbury's dangerous legacy," Canada, Feb. 10). There are 80,000 tons of mineral contaminated with PCBs, which are recovered in part per tonne.

Brian Soper,
Oakville, Ont.

The Road Ahead

The myth of Internet profits

As inventors and investors fund themselves in Internet stocks, we should be well-positioned to recall what British journalist Charles Mackay wrote in his 1841 classic, *Extraordinary Popular Delusions and the Madness of Crowds*: "Every age has its peculiar folly, some scheme, project, or phantasy into which it plunges, spurred on by the love of gain, the necessity of excitement, or the mere force of imitation."

It is ironic that even as the Internet idea seemingly wins profits for its corporate owners, its long-term impact will be a great waste for consumers, and another step towards ever-declining corporate profitability.

Data assembled by Mercer Management Consulting shows that return on assets and corporate margins have been in decline for almost all of this past 50 years. The reason, simply stated, is that the free-market Internet works. Monopoly profits are seen primarily in gateways. Monopoly profits, in turn, reflect new entrants and the development of substitute products, both of which drive down profit margins. Products as disparate as the balloon pen and Aspen are evidence of this reality.

The Internet is likely to further accelerate the long-run decline of margins. Amazon.com is growing rapidly by taking sales away from traditional retail outlets. Amazon offers a dramatic improvement on both price and convenience to the book-shopping public. Yet soon, by accessing just one Internet site, a prospective 6004 purchaser will probably be able to compare the price of a particular volume sold by Amazon with those of four or five other online vendors.

John Koopman,
Oakville, Ont.

Books will have effectively turned into a commodity, and commodity industries are notoriously price sensitive.

Classic economics tells us that in perfectly competitive markets one makes any money that is part because few consumers buy real perfect information, not many markets where perfectly competitive. The Internet represents a major step toward dramatically improving consumer information. It will effectively turn many markets into commodities. As consumers get closer to perfect information, corporate opportunities to profit from imperfect information will decline.

Microsoft and a few other companies that are building this new infrastructure do for the moment enjoy attractive margins, but for most vendors of most products the Internet presents a real business opportunity only because it allows them to reduce margins. Amazon is really nothing more than a means of distributing books at margins lower than those possible for traditional retail stores.

We are looking into the face of the greatest transfer of power from producers to consumers since the dawn of the Industrial Revolution. In the Internet world, if your product is just a hair more expensive than your competitor's, the world's consumers will know, and act accordingly.

The Internet will change the way the world works and plays. In the long run, however, it will not make a lot of shareholders rich, despite the current share-price mania surrounding Internet stocks. Those of you who believe otherwise would be well advised to read Charles Mackay.

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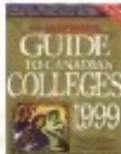
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Editorial Update



The
Maclean's
Guide to
Canadian
Colleges
1999

Faced with high unemployment costs, many students experience of making connections," and are to acquire practical, will help them secure jobs.

Realizing that students are increasingly attracted to Canada's colleges, Macleans has published *The Macleans' Guide to Canadian Colleges*. This new book is the first resource to offer unbiased and comprehensive information about the country's 120 community and university colleges, technical institutes and CEGEPs.

In addition to essential facts about each school's academic strengths, tuition rates, financial aid services, the new guide looks at residence choices, how to use the internet to access on-line learning options, and the hot job tracks of the future.

The Merriam's Guide to Christian Colleges
USA retails for \$10.95 and is now available
at bookstores and newsstands everywhere.

Newsstand Notes



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Microsoft's on the World Wide Web serves up a variety of news, from the current market report. Our address is <http://www.microsoft.com>.

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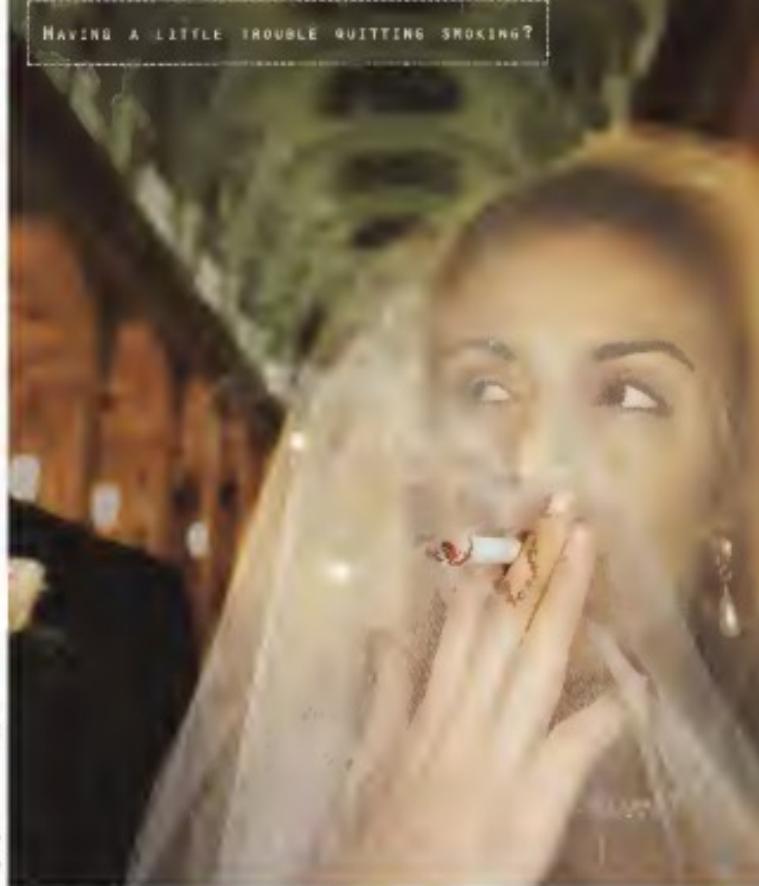
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Backstage



Anthony Wilson-Smith

The road from the CFL to NBC

It's hard to think of anyone more profoundly Canadian than Bob McKeown. Born and raised in Ottawa, his father Robert was a longtime editor of the now-defunct *Workers Magazine*, and member of the Parliamentary Press Gallery. His wife, Shelagh D'Arcy McGee, is related by blood to Father of Confederation Thomas D'Arcy McGee, the late Ottawa Journal publisher and senator George O'Loughlin, the great Ottawa Silver Seven hockey player Frank McGee, and her father, also Frank McGee, was a federal MP and Tory cabinet minister. In the early 1970s, Bob was an oil executive with the Grey Cup-champion Ottawa Rough Riders before giving it up to become a journalist. That decision, he jokes, "spoke well for my physical health, but perhaps not my sanity." Two documentaries he produced on the Montreal Canadiens and Edmonton Oilers remain must-sees for sports fans. As a television reporter, he spent a decade with the CBC's *Mr. 60s* estate.

At the same time, it's hard to find many people more wed to the non-American American psyche than the now-78-year-old McKeown. As a student football player at Yale, he stopped the ball to quarterback Brian Dawkins—later immortalized in classic Garry Trremen's *Photobucket* comic strip as the hard-hitting, helmet-wearing B.D. For many, the Emmy Award-winning McKeown will always be known as "The First American in Kuwait City." After leaving the CBC for a job at CBS in 1980, he and his camera crew arrived in Kuwait's capital as the occupying Iraqi army was fleeing—days ahead of *Allied* troops. With a sensible dish and portable generator, he began broadcasting *Tonight*—and when he went off-air, the Pentagon and White House called the network, asking that he be put back on.

With his CBS advancement stalled after too many suggestions that he was asked to succeed anchor Dan Rather, McKeown jumped to NBC in 1985. He landed at *Dateline*, which, with audiences reaching 20 million viewers, was tying with *60 Minutes* to be the most-watched newsmagazine. One of the first to greet him was co-host Jane Pauley—wife of Garry Trudeau. And when NBC's partner channel *Discovery* produced a much-hyped documentary about the *Zodiac* last December, there was McKeown again, hosting and providing on both channels.

In short, even when McKeown isn't anchoring our living-room pbs and news, they have a way of appearing around him. Sometimes, that's by circumstance, such as the way McKeown arrived in the Gulf War in the first place. He talked his way over as a replacement for colleague Bob Simon, who had been captured by the Iraqis. More often, McKeown is in the right place because he simply can't bear missing out on breaking news. When he arrived in

Saudi Arabia, he and his crew donned uniforms given them by the British. But inside them look like soldiers, had their whistles painted with the camouflage colours used by regular troops, and bluffed their way to the front. That shouldn't be surprising for a man who raised most of his bypasses in order to cover a war in Nicaragua.

Fortunately, McKeown, a journalistic newsworker at the *Canadian Television Network*, understands these things. And these days, enthusiasm for the Big Story is more important than ever, because no show has a more voracious appetite for news than *Dawson's Creek*. The old show's fifth-ranked broadcast is averaging 24 original hour-long programs a year. *Dawson*, running five days a week, is shown that many every month.

An acclaimed writer in New York City's Rock Center City, NBC news is rated 24 hours a day, year-round. The show also has a large West Coast operation in Burbank, Calif., where former CTV and CBC journalist Seth Morrison is based.

Former Ottawa Rough Rider Bob McKeown made his name in TV news as 'the first American in Kuwait City'

Anyone who thinks life becomes easier near the top hasn't worked for *Dawson*, or any off-the-top competition on ABC, CBS, the Fox network and cable. A single week freed from his dashboard made the thin McKeown begin with a 7 a.m. Monday flight from New York to Washington where he picked up a rented car and drove to a town at least away in Maryland. He returned that afternoon to Capitol Hill, then drove the car at 10 p.m. to the airport in Baltimore, then flew to Houston on Tuesday; he got up at 6 a.m., drove six hours to Paris, Tex., for a shoot, and spent the night there. He finished the segment on Wednesday at 4 p.m., made a 2½-hour drive to Dallas airport, and caught a flight back to New York, arriving home at 3 a.m. He got up four hours later and went straight to the office.

As any fan, McKeown is usually working on about a dozen stories in various degrees of production. That requires a hard check on deadlines as well as facts, since stories move from self-persuasive pretenses to interviewing a convicted child killer in a penitentiary. His only complaint, he says, "is when things get slow, very slow."

McKeown decided to leave Canada in the late 1980s when, approaching 40, he could see nothing new at the CBC that he particularly wanted to do. Like other Canadians who relocate to the United States, the experience has made him reflective about his upbringing. He, Shelagh and their two sons, P.Arcy, 13, and Liam, 8, (McKeown has two older sons, Rob, 22, and Alex, 18, by a previous marriage) regularly travel to Ottawa—and Vancouver, where his mother, Viola, now lives—to keep in touch with their roots. There is, he says, "a peace and tranquility in Canada quite different from the United States." That's why McKeown, the devoted family man loves it—and why, as a results journalist, he left.

Opening NOTES

Edited by TANYA DAHLBERG

Missing after action

The British Columbia Repatriation Association is looking for one good man. Second World War veteran Capt. Miltred Jasper Allison, an American by birth, has been missing since his discharge from the Canadian Army on Nov. 11, 1945. The association wants to see him returned to Canada. Normandy in May, 1944, was the 2nd Canadian Armoured Reconnaissance platoon of Rgt 140, where they first saw action.

Allison was a T-75 soldier in 1940, but because the United States had not yet joined the war, he deserted and enlisted with the Canadian Forces to see some action. Which he did. Allison received the Distinguished Conduct Medal—Canada's second highest military award—for his part in the 1945 crossing of the Rhine Canal in Germany. He was a crew commander of a squadron there that accounted for the killing of 50 enemy. Even though he was injured in the fighting, Allison at one point went alone, through heavy fire, to save his troop leader. "He was a damn good soldier," says retired Lieutenant-colonel Arthur Langley, a member of Allison's regiment. "and he did a hell of a good job." But not for the United States. According to a 1945 article in the



Stracy, Langley, Sgt. Raymond Slover, Allison (l-r) searching

Graves Star, Allison was fined \$11 and sentenced to six months imprisonment for desertion when he returned home.

The B.C. association joined the search for Allison in 1994, but has only drawn blanks since veterans return to both Canada and the United States. Says retired lieutenant-colonel Arthur Stracy, president of the association: "We want to welcome him back into the family."

CAPITAL CONFIDENTIAL

Preston Manning is known for a few deeply held positions: smaller government, fewer taxes and conservative family values. But last month's United Alternative convention, Manning vowed to show there is more to him than his stern public image suggests. Still, it was a surprise to see him pop up on comedian Mike Bullard's CTV late-night talk show last week, playing along with the host's off-the-cuff humor. And channel-hopping Canadians might have caught Manning in even less familiar surroundings, after expert commentary on synchronized swimming for TSN's *Even the Canada Winter Games* in Corner Brook, Nfld.

Home, however, is still the place. Not so western as the range, maybe, but Manning's family members have long been part of Alberta's synchronized swimming establishment. Manning



Manning: a true
synchronized
swimmer

EMPORIUM

Percentage of Canadian adults who drink coffee on a regular basis	
Andrea	44
Mary	55
Percentage of coffee drinkers who consume specialty beverages—including cappuccino, espresso and coffee lattes—daily	
At home	76
At work	54
In the car	12

SOURCE: COFFEE MARKETING BOARD OF CANADA

GOLDFARBS POLL

When 1,450 Canadians were asked about their level of respect for rock musicians, the majority of those under 35 said it was "high." The older the respondent, the less regard he or she had for rock 'n' rollers. By percentage of results:

	Under 25	26-34	35-44	45-54	55-64	65+
Very or extremely high respect	65	89	90	49	32	16
Moderately or very low respect	35	41	50	50	68	84

SOURCE: GOLDFARB MARKETING RESEARCH

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Horner now,
and in the
mid-1970s,
tough talker

DOUBLE TAKE

Jack Horner

Former MP Jack Horner, 74, had been a long-time Conservative. His grandfather was the mayor of Prince Albert, Sask., his brother Ralph was a senator and his brother Hugh was an MP and later deputy premier of Alberta. And for 21 years, between 1958 and 1979, Horner was one of Ontario's most outspoken politicians—as Tory MP for the Ottawa riding of Crowfoot, he once beat Pierre Trudeau to Adfield-Thorn, everything changed. Horner left the party leadership race to Joe Clark and, a year later, he crossed the floor and was sworn into Trudeau's Liberal cabinet. He was called "horror" and lost his seat in the 1979 election. Now 74, he says he doesn't regret his decision. "It's the way I am," he says.

—LUCIE FERSTER

The Pro-Line watch

Bob Southope, an Ottawa convenience-store owner, is furious that officials with the Ontario Lottery Corporation closed down his online games operation last week. The move means he cannot sell lottery tickets, which were worth \$800,000 in sales to his store last year. Southope claims he complained about OLC regulations, which appeared in the March 1 issue of *Maclean's*, is the real reason his machine was closed. "It's unlikely this is coincidental," he says. Southope insists he was victimized by the OLC's tight agenda. Brian and Terry LeBlanc of Ayton, Que., who claim to have won up to \$300 million playing Pro-Line since 1992 last June, the OLC set a \$1000 personal daily limit—down from the state's initial limit of \$5,000—and lottery spokesman Don Proulx says Southope had recently violated the new regulation for a third time. "That article was not a factor in this decision," Proulx adds. Southope, meanwhile, is not gambling—he has hired a lawyer and is threatening legal action.

BEST-SELLERS

FICTION

1. *Die, Lemon, Die*, John Grisham (22)
2. *A Man in Full*, Tom Wolfe (7)
3. *Southern Grace*, Patricia Cornwell (29)
4. *Witness*, John le Carré (12)
5. *It's Cold*, Elmore Leonard (32)
6. *Billy Bright*, Jennifer Egan (6)
7. *Hearts from the Front Lines*, Steven Molnar (6)
8. *The Devil's Disciple*, Alice Munro (2)
9. *The New Middle*, Edna Ferber (3)
10. *The White Hotel*, Burton Rabe (12)

NONFICTION

1. *King in the Castle*, Jim Hodge (2)
2. *The Garrison*, Caroline Alexander (3)
3. *The Professor and the Madman*, Simon Winchester (1)
4. *Wise Blood*, Flannery O'Connor (8)
5. *Not That Far*, Steven Coen (6)
6. *You Are Here*, Mark Attwells (3)
7. *Dance*, Peter C. Newman (2)
8. *Running from a Big Country*, Jim McEwan (2)
9. *Caroline, Anna*, Peter Gunkel (7)
10. *What the Hellfire Club Told Me*, Elizabeth Kolbert (9)

(1) Previous best book
Graphed by Bruce Johnson

A beaver's tale

Journalist Patrick Wilson's *Base Aventura (Slobodan Kralj)* is a coming-of-age story for young readers. In 1916, Albrecht the beaver is living a peaceful existence in the Canadian wilderness with other animals and one human, painter Tana Thomson. But when poachers destroy his den, Albrecht starts a journey that will change his life.



Passages

CONVICTED

Serial Eric Neman, 57, deputy premier in the former Saskatchewan Conservative government of Grant Devine, of defrauding taxpayers of \$11,735, in Regina. Neman is the 14th Tory convicted in the corruption scandal that has seen 21 MLAs or party officials charged with illegally diverting at least \$1 million from the provincial government between 1986 and 1991. The former premier, who was acquitted on a charge of breach of trust, faces up to 10 years in prison.

DIED One of Newfoundland's best-known novelists, Peter Metcalf, 76, at peace-novelist St. John's. A former teacher, his most-read book is his groundbreaking 1970 novel, *Maus of West*.

DIED Margaret MacLennan, 88, a career diplomat who became Canada's first female ambassador, posted to India, Austria, Kenya and Sweden, after a short illness, in Halifax.

DIED Former major-league baseball pitcher and North Carolina congressman Wilmer (Weigie) Bill Mizell, 58, of the lingering effects from a heart attack suffered four months ago, in Greenville, Tex. Mizell—whose nickname came from the Alabama town he grew up in—helped the Pittsburgh Pirates win the 1960 World Series.

AWARDED Toronto entomologist Colm Coffey, 51, a Gairing Award for his contributions to the production of *The Complete Hawk Moths* CD sets, in Los Angeles, where the big Canadian scientist wrote female singers Celine Dion, Shania Twain and Alanis Morissette (page 45).

APPOINTED Controversial filmmaker Sam Greenberg, 35, as head of the guy at the Cannes Film Festival this May. The director of such movies as *The Fly* (1986) and *Couch* (1996) is the first Canadian filmmaker to be honored with the position.

EXPECTING Cynthia Bates, 39, actress and wife of Peter Mansbridge, 50, anchor of CBC TV's *The National*. The couple were married last November.



Years ago, the only insurance a woman had was her husband.

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Women who somehow manage

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In a country that boasts of being the world's best place to live, the homeless are a constant reminder that not all enjoy an equal share of Canada's good fortune. Pictures are necessarily impure—those living on the streets, after all, have no door at which a census taker can knock to record their existence. But knowledgeable observers guess that up to 100,000 people lack shelter on any given day in this country. Some are visible: hunched figures draped in blankets, arms reaching for a handout on Toronto's King Street or Vancouver's Granville. But they are only a small minority of the number that social agencies regard as homeless in Canada. That larger group also includes those whose shelter is grossly unsafe, unclean or inadequate for Canada's extreme climate—the so-called relatively homeless. Among them are many—often the very young or very old—trapped in homes beset by violence and neglect. One thing, however, is certain: in nearly every community, homelessness is growing.

Six days after protesters demanding help for the homeless scuffled with police on Parliament Hill last month, Federal Finance Minister Paul Martin tabled a budget that ignored calls to restore national funding for low-cost housing, which the Liberal government slashed in 1994. But despite the staggering statistics and closed federal purse, reasons for hope persist. In cities



On the streets in Winnipeg, teaching useful skills and providing safe, affordable housing

SMALL SOLUTIONS

BY CHRIS WOOD

across the country, many groups are struggling with limited resources to respond in creative ways to the expanding epidemic of homelessness—and prevent yet more Canadians from falling into the streets. Over the past two weeks, Maclean's Vancouver Bureau Chief Chris Wood has towed his home through Calgary, Winnipeg and Toronto to explore some of the most notable and promising of these responses. His report:

The Portland Hotel, on Vancouver's Carrall Street, is no-one's idea of the Ritz. It is a grim four-storey slump of a building that rises from a steep rise overlooking the downtown Eastside, the city's poorest area. The floor is plain green steel, with the establishment's name painted in stark block letters. Most of the time it is locked; visitors must identify themselves to gain entry. Inside—another look below—there's one steel grille—leading to a narrow lobby where a dozen poorly dressed men and women sit or sleep on hard red-room chairs. Several shabby armchairs bear the telltale scars of long-term drug addiction. In some faces, drug syrup speaks of the heavy medication used to treat madness at bay. But no 27-year-old

Stephanie Blies, the Portland Hotel's something close to pariah. Compared with other former mental patients who have been turned out of institutions and ended up on the street, she leaves her to her fate. "Here," she says, "I can make my own choices. I can invite someone over for a glass of wine or a beer, just like normal people."

For Stephanie, that is a small but priceless treasure. For most others in the destitute and drugaddled downtown Eastside, it is only a dream. Like every Canadian city, Vancouver has its share of men and women who sleep in alleys and parks or take refuge in emergency shelters, so many at 800 on some nights, according to city officials. But more than 30 times that number find shelter at a network of the run-down accommodations provided by so-called 500+

privately owned single room occupancy hotels that are distinguished mainly by their decay and the decaying nature of the clientele housed off on guitars—victims of bad luck or drug use. "Two-dollar call in a house," says Fredrik Oberst, executive director of the downtown太原人道协会, a neighbourhood advocacy group. "Two-dollar call in a house."

Hansen adds: "People Allegro couldn't agree more. After staying at several other SROs, he now lives in one himself." A car above the rest, "there we all kinds of mice," the New Sto executive says. "But I rather have the mice than the moths." In other respects, Allegro would feel at home at the lot on Main Street it is much like its neighbours. Twenty residents share two bathrooms. Everytwo, Allegro says, "you go to take a piss, and there might be someone shooting up—or doing a trick." Self-preservation in the washroom is not his biggest complaint. That is directed at the policy—standard at SROs—of not allowing residents to entertain guests after 8 p.m. "To 20 years old," he complains. "It's like Tragedy I hate it." Allegro says he understands why for many men and women, a night in the street is preferable to a night in a SRO.

It was to address just such complaints that the residents' association and a clutch of other agencies, backed by the B.C. Housing Core division, joined forces in 1991 to take over management of the 100-room Portland Hotel from its private owners. After making late-night repairs—and scrapping the debated no-visitors policy—the new management dropped the monthly rent to what British Columbia's welfare system provides for shelter, currently \$885. The hotel also began to offer more than just shelter. Public health nurses visit regularly, there is a daily drug and booze clinic for addicts, as well as a methadone program. The Portland Hotel, insists its veritable doomsday manager Mark Townsend, is still "not acceptable housing. But it's all there."

Acceptable or not, it is a model that seems to work for its tenants—so well, in fact, that there are nearby hotels undergoing similar takeovers under the auspices of not-for-profit groups and public social housing agencies. Even more ambitious is a brand new SRO which Vancouver's Portland Hotel Society is building just down the street at a cost of \$9 million. Designed by famed architect Arthur Erickson, it will boast 60 single-occupancy rooms, each with shower heads, a sink in a community cafe and a garden, where a duckpond lures fish.

Other, less tangible (and less costly) initiatives are also bringing new glimmers of light to Vancouver's homeless. Recognizing that many of them are hard-core intravenous drug users, the region's health board last year provided funding for a group known as VANDU—an acronym that stands for the Vancouver Area Network of Drug Users. VANDU's weekly meetings, in a large cluttered room over a drop-in centre, are noisy and frequently polite affairs. A few lunch help boost attendance—sometimes as high as 190 people. But the group's larger purpose is to give Vancouver's most marginalized residents a voice in any municipal plan affecting them. Last year, a delegation from VANDU appeared before a city council committee to air concerns over a variety of issues, including housing. Michael Erce, 43, a heroin user who has lived on the streets and SROs of the

Developments. For a decade, it is an enthusiastic member of the group. "It has revitalized users' lives," she says. "We're finding out not everyone is against [Other people are finding out we're not monsters.]"

Yet another seemingly small step with enormous returns was taken last February. That was when the residents association launched a low-cost internet service for people without telephones. For \$3 a month it gives people without their own telephone account, or even so much as an address, an affordable contact point for potential employers or landlords, as well as a way to keep in touch with friends and social service agencies. "It's my only way to be in touch with my physicians," former prostitute detective Bill Price. After a traffic accident in May, 1997, left him unable to work, Price gradually became derelict. Now back on a friend while he pursues a legal case that he hopes will restore him to advocacy, Price calls the low-cost voice mail "terrific."



Sheltered with purpose: Vancouver's Pastoral Network offering the derelict more than just shelter

Not every instance of homelessness has its roots in tragedy. Calgary's problem, in fact, has a cause that other cities might envy. Nearly three-quarters of its estimated 3,000 homeless are seniors, driven by a booming Alberta economy. Hundreds of men, women and families flock to town each month in search of work. Many find it, but they quickly disband with a vacancy rate for rental housing that's one per cent, soaring a house is another matter.

Among the small crowd of men and women that gathers nightly at the door of a small warehouse building on 7th Avenue, not all have found work. But everyone is seeking shelter. Square up between a pawnshop and a discount store, the single-storyInside still bears the carved name of the building's original tenant, the Canadian Bible Society. Since last October, however, the structure has housed a shoe-string agency called from the Cold, through which a total of 40 Calgary churches open their homes and meeting rooms for a residing band to the homeless. At 5 o'clock, the crowd is allowed inside, and volunteers assign the 30 beds available each night, giving priority to families with children, couples and women. Another dozen people—mostly single men—are turned away. Those lucky enough to qualify get a ride in a van where volunteers of the congregation serve a full meal as well as provide a cot to sleep on. Breakfast and a big lunch follow the tent meeting. "It's awesome," reflected Sueann Stevenson, 37, who arrived in Calgary two weeks ago with her boyfriend from Vancouver—where the two had been living on the street and pushing drug for change. "Last night, we had chicken and mashed potatoes and little pasta that a guy donated. They're nice people."

Sure enough, 26-year-old boyfriend, Kayne Grant, may be homeless, but he is no longer hungry. Within 72 hours of arriving in Calgary, he found work as a billiard-marker. But he and Stevenson now face a far more difficult problem: finding somewhere permanent to settle. It is a problem shared with an astonishing 45 per cent of Calgary's homeless who have work, but can't find—or afford—a shelter. Sureign has driven roads in Calgary on dimensionally over the past two years with bachelor apartments. But formerly went for \$500 a month now commanding more than \$850. Add a security deposit and additional deposits to secure telephone and utilities, and the cost of moving into even a small Calgary apartment reaches \$2,800. "Everybody can

find jobs," says Shirley Brown, one-woman administrator of the year-old Calgary Homeless Foundation. "But you can't find a place to live."

A former military base just off Crowchild Trail, southwest of downtown, recycled barns have provided a welcome hot temporary answer. The brick-and-beam origins of the base's former occupants, Princess Patricia's Canadian Light Infantry, still attract visitors at the gates. But the regiment moved to Edmonton earlier in the decade after cuts to the defence budget, and the federal government is once again unloading the base, while painted, rot-roofed buildings. One now houses the Alberta Film Office; others a college and school. Building B-4 is home to 60 men, women and couples who have jobs, but can't afford conventional rents.

"I've lived there," says a woman named Kelly. "They're going to have to take me out kicking and screaming." Since welfare is no alternative part year, Kelly spent time in a women's shelter before finding work as a concession for the Calgary Special Olympics. "But to come up with first and last—[you] do it," she says. She moved into the Lodge, as Calgary's social housing arm, CalHome Properties Ltd., calls the project, shortly after it opened last November (it received funding from all three levels of government). There she gets a large, well-lit room that once housed four welfarees, as well as the use of shared bathroom, kitchen and laundry facilities, for \$850 a day. Men and women and children and seniors are segregated. Her step of kicking and screaming may come sooner than she expects. CalHome has to hand the building back to the federal government in May, 2000.

Long before then, Calgary's Kerby Centre expects that the office on what will become Canada's only refuge for a particularly vulnerable group: elderly men and women who stay alone in their homes and have nowhere else to flee. The centre, which provides a variety of programs for 26,000 Calgary senior citizens, undertaken construction of a new, four-storey shelter after noticing a sharp increase in reports of the elderly being physically abused—often by their own families. "There was one 90-year-old lady," says centre spokeswoman Betty McCraugh. Every six months, we'd get a call from the hospital. Her grandfather had beaten her up because she wouldn't give him the money he wanted. But there was nowhere for her to go. You just have

to let them go home to be abused again." Local corporations, service clubs and the Alberta government contributed to the \$3.7 million cost of creating a better alternative. When it opens at the end of April, the shelter will provide a safe refuge for as many as 32 endangered men and women at one time.

Two groceries away, neither the cheerless intersection of Portage and Main nor a flailing urban economy offer much solace—but for the footloose to seek opportunity in Winnipeg. That may be one reason why the Manitoba capital's homeless are mainly young—many of them the most destitute and tragic of the city's largely Aboriginal underclass.

Each Friday—the busiest night on the streets—a blue van sets out from the Salvation Army's Wintergreen Centre to search the back alleys on either side of Main Street for the least fortunate. Sporting red berets for identification and carrying flashlights to pierce the drift-

ing darkness, the young "Children are not officially 'homeless,'" notes the centre's codirector, Sister Leslie Seccombe. "Otherwise, they'd be taken into custody." But for many, home may be anything but safe: Boardwalk is not a conventional shelter; it has no beds and offers no free meals. But children and youth as old as 24, fleeing domestic violence or拴on of home, find nothing as sympathetic as a car and a place to stay out of the cold. The centre, which serves funding from the city, province and United Way, offers entertainment—a basketball half-court, television and pool—and a variety of activities and development programs for kids who become more involved. The weekends and school holidays, the centre stays open all night, al though children under 12 are given a \$10 limit at 9:30. "If their own home is not a safe place," says Seccombe, "we will drive them to an adult's or a teenager's place—someplace they feel comfortable."

First established in 1976 in the basement of a house Seccombe occupied with several other Catholic Sisters of the Holy Names, Ross Brook has by now seen several generations of children pass through its doors. But the appeal of what it offers seems undiminished among the children—90 per cent of whom are Aboriginal—who come there. Without a job, a seldom 25-year-old Belinda Badayakwa, 27, probably has no place drops and alcohol, raising with the wrong people. Three years ago, her friend Afreen was passed on the fingers of a gang that was into "Working, drinking down 8 and 10s." Now 18, she has broken off those alliances and has set her sights on becoming a teacher. She too credits Ross Brook with giving her a sanctuary where "you can be yourself and no one will bother you."

Ross Brook's Belinda Badayakwa and the Salvation Army's Belen Berens after hours of first aid to Winnipeg's severely frostbitten, who is going on behind the brick facade of a former houseboat in the downtown North End affords a model for a more permanent solution. Part of the former Police Theatre's cavernous interior has been roughly board up to make a classroom where a dozen welfare recipients of a time receive instruction in home economics.

Under the auspices of the Winnipeg Community Education and Development Association's Just Housing project, and with funding from the Sun and Sealy, Brandon Family Foundation, they will complete two months of classroom training. Then spend four more months putting their skills to use rehabilitating one of Winnipeg's many abandoned houses. The goal is to build skills for the tenured—and another safe, affordable home for a low-income family like Beverly and Jim. They asked that their last name not be used and that their five children, ages 6 to 18.

After previous rented houses, closer to downtown, their landlord refused to fix even major structural defects—and each morning revealed a fresh scattering of used syringes in the yard. The kids, says Beverly, had friends who were scared to come down there." But

Across Canada, fresh initiatives give new hope to the homeless



Shelters held no grudges in Calgary: we assessing 45 per cent of the city's homeless have work

now under looking boys and behind barspoken, the Salvation Army parol officers the located a ride to a shelter, and calls-needed assistance when they find someone who has passed out. In Winnipeg's bitter winter, unconsciousness can be fatal. "They'll come to later to get treated," says Glen Norton, leading the way through a brook, 12-miles into a concrete grain bin beneath elevated railway tracks. "Then they'll try to sleep and freeze to death." In the gloom, empty lots of larger houses and paint give ample evidence that the place has been used for settling addicts—the drug of choice among many of Winnipeg's homeless—but on this frigid night the grain bins are remarkably calm habitats.

Held a dozen blocks away, Rosbrook House (actually a converted church) offers a far more welcoming refuge from the street for a dif-

when the couple first tried to move to a better house or neighbourhood, she adds, they found that when "you go to another part of the city they don't want us black people." A year ago, however, the family moved into one of the 10 houses Just Housing has renovated so far—a trim, two-storey shacks house with four bedrooms and a sunroom. "It's quite a big difference," Mrs. Eley says today. After years of personal revelations, "it was like, 'Hey, something good is actually happening to me!'"

Drag queen on the West Coast, Economic migrants in Calgary. The Aboriginal underclass in Winnipeg. Toronto, as a sorry reflection of its status as Canada's biggest city, can choose to tell those out-siders—and them none. Among more than 20 000 people who passed through its many homeless shelters in 1990, according to a survey done just last month, half were families and more than 5 000 were children. And the suffered state of mental illness.

But another substantial share of Toronto's homeless could accurately be described as classic, childhood-onset drunks. It is for them that one key less bar, during unusually fabled Ontario odds, particular help. Guided by the social-clinical name of the "Wet Amends," it can be found next door to the country's largest park-shelter—the vast, yellow-brick Seaton Place at the edge of the city's Cabbagetown neighbourhood—what used to be a public showering facility. There are 20 beds here; sinks holes are given to only a dozen places to wash away their fears, the excesses of gambling, of substance, in place of the Lipstick and mazeltov alcohol that most of them once guzzled on the streets.

Once Lillian Lewis is off the back clause to 80 the trend is what are several weeks now costing strange. Seated on a bench, the Wet Amends' cramped basement lounge last week, he boasts of that there was no place in the world I haven't slept in the sun." He also thinks enough bad alcohol to leave his liver a non-functioning zone. Now he calls the Amends home, and considers it "Amazyl"—good sleep, it's clear. The fringe is open 24 hours a day. And the shelves the red wine the staples out in formica cups. Remarkably, says facility supervisor Art Mansur, once men like Lillian come round, they no longer need to fear that shelter will not take away their house, most actually sleep less than they do on the street. "Very few of these guys get drunk," Mansur says. Still, he adds, "They need to self-medicate. We understand that." The wine, while provided by the staff, is not free—\$10 hours and other new rents pay for their drinks, although an arrangement with a local U brew keeps the price to a minimum.)

Across town, two very different facilities share the Wet Amends philosophy of tailoring solutions to the specific needs of some of Toronto's most vulnerable homeless. St. Michael's House, a three-storey former factory now owned by a non-profit group and leased by the city, gives permanent and alternative shelter to 10 men and women, many with mental or physical disorders. Each gets a modest room of their own, and shares a bathroom, living room and four to six others. A creative design featuring exposed brickwork and open skyways gives the place something of the look of an art studio, and keeps its costs down at a remarkable \$10 000 a month. But the Mark Hartash, 30 ft x 100 ft—a former fast-food restaurant that has been converted into a temporary shelter for 150 people—has been forced to close. The former owner, Mr. Hartash, says he has been forced to close because he "had to do what I want, when I want. These the decisions to come and go when I want. There no nurses or doctor telling me what I want."

The more progressive philosophy applies next door as well, at the much smaller St. Michael's shelter for especially hard-to-haus women. Aimed at the 70 per cent of homeless women who have some form of mental disorder, the shelter provides 15 beds in what staff call "cab-

bies"—clustered alcoves designed to simulate the outdoor woods and back-alley crannies where most of its clients formerly slept. Says supervisor Gabriella Macello: "We want to target a population that nobody else wants to serve, women who would not survive in a regular shelter or who have behaviour issues that would not be tolerated there." One of them is Mary, a fragile woman wearing a pink nylon jacket, who could be 40. Approaching Macello, she reveals that on our recent foray beyond the shelter's walls she was beaten. "I walked down an alley," she says in a little-girl's voice, "and they hit me and took my money."

At a two-year-old former convent just north of Dunbarton Avenue, the operators of the WoodGreen Red Door Family Shelter are trying to save a new generation from becoming a statistic on the streets. The municipally funded United Facility gives shelter, support and advice on child care to homeless young mothers, most of them single and many with only the barest of parenting skills. "A lot of them may not read or write," says assistant director Tracy Ashton. "A lot never even painted themselves." Some have been rejected by their landlords after they became pregnant, others have been unable to find an apartment because



Merrily in Toronto—support and advice on child care to homeless young mothers

"landladies take our look at you and don't want anything to do with them." Still others have come to the attention of social workers after bringing infants and other children.

In the case of Michelle Mexican, 22, the problem was a landlord who evicted her along with her mother, Wendy, while Michelle was pregnant. After staying briefly with Merrily's mother, the pair moved into the Red Door shelter only before Michelle gave birth on Feb. 12 to a baby girl. "There's only one side solution," says Macello, a 30-year-old young woman in a sweatshirt and red headband, lifting her infant from a carry-neck-cut to show her off to visitors. Her goal now, she says, is simply "to find a place and see Yvette." She's straightforward about ambition: "And how difficult it may be to achieve." As two recent major urban studies—the latest a task force report on homelessness presented to Toronto Mayor Mel Lastman in January—have confirmed, homelessness of all forms continues to increase faster than governments are devoting resources to alleviate it. A lot of experts have come out," notes NDP MP Libby Davies, who last month visited her own ward of the housing crisis to the growing tide of studies. "But I don't know if that necessarily means the issue is on the political radar." That is the bad news; the good news is that while the sharply rising tide of homelessness forces us into the political policy agenda, so surely it must, there will be no shortage of creative ideas for stemming it. □

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CANADA

Bashing the judges

Critics are taking aim at judicial activism

BY JOHN GEDDES

Rarely has the decorum that goes with the government's checkdowns of publicly funded assault judgments from the Supreme Court of Canada last week, Justice Diane L'Epinay-Dube took direct aim at the Alberta Appeal Court judge. Justice John McClaugh, whose decisionistic approach was overruled. McClaugh had ruled last year that a 17-year-old woman who was groped by a man after discussing a job a few weeks earlier was not really assaulted, in part because she was wearing a T-shirt and shorts at the time—not "in honour and innocence." L'Epinay-Dube, like a strip of McCloud's "cooperative," "achieve rights and live easier," albeit sexual assault. McClaugh, grandson of groundhog-feeding Canadian feminist Nellie McClung, had been too hasty to write a letter to the *National Post* decrying L'Epinay-Dube for seeking in "a pristine slide into personal narrative." And then he added some asinine of his own, suggesting that her conviction "could provide a plausible explanation" for Quebec's increasing male suicide rate. (McLellan is Dube's husband; Arthur Dube, eponymous son, in 1978.)

The extended legal exchange amounts to more than a frost over a single contentious case. McClaugh is a well-known opponent of activist judges who insist rulings that try to push society toward adopting new attitudes. In a 1990 decision, he held that the Alberta government should not be forced to protect homosexuals from discrimination under its human rights law. And McClaugh used that ruling to criticize any "overreaching, ideologically determined" judges who might try to impose gay rights on the province. Last year, the Supreme Court of Canada did just that—striking down McClaugh's judgment on appeal and, with deference, broadly defending the role of elevation making sure all laws are brought into compliance with the 1982 Charter of Rights and Freedoms.

The clashes between McClaugh and the country's top court are only the most public examples of a much broader issue. Ever since the charter revolutionized Canada's legal system, courts have frequently interpreted that way to reshape the law to reflect their progressive—dissident and religious freedom to labour rights rule. And from the start of the charter era, critics of "judicial activism" have charged that appointed judges were usurping the role of elected politicians. Are we still at eye-opening rulings—in subjects such as gay

rights and native land claims—has turned that longstanding debate into a hot political topic. When Reformers at the Tories' gathering in Ottawa at last month's United Alternative convention to discuss the formation of a new right-of-center party, they rose to their feet every time a politician at the podium took a poll of the country's judges. "It's carried on like this between now and the next election. It's going to be a mess that draws votes," says Calgary MP Jim Lester. The Reformers' plan for family policy issues.



Diane L'Epinay-Dube, McClaugh's right after a spate of recent controversial rulings, observes that some judges are out of step with society.



face in the development of laws that balance complex and competing interests."

That balance is often struck through a give-and-take process between judges and politicians. In nearly all other decisions, the courts have left out the opportunity for Parliament to come back and remedy the problem, argues New York University law professor Thomas Macaulay. He points, as an example, to a 2007 Supreme Court decision that was widely criticized for forcing to temper police investigations by requiring warrants before police could enter a private home to make an arrest. In fact, it took only a few months for Ottawa to respond with a Criminal Code amendment that gave police a quick new procedure for getting the necessary warrants—within



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CANADA

boards of the court's insistence that Charter-protected privacy rights be respected.

But critics say the action at a healthy "distance" between courts and governments is worth thinking. University of Calgary public policy academic Ted Morton says the "courts have become the primary enforcer of the Liberal party's social policy." He argues that rulings on, among other issues, native land claims and gay rights show isolated judges taking the country in directions where elected politicians may be afraid to lead—but the Liberals are more than willing to follow instead of having to go to the courts. Morton argues, governments should be asserting themselves—in some cases by going the Constitution's way—so that it's not so far-fetched to consider closer to override the charter. The most obvious recent choice in model that power was the B.C. child pornography case, Morton says.

But Maclean's reported demands from the Reform party—and pressure from many Liberal backbench MPs—to revert to the notwithstanding clause to preserve the child pornography law. Instead, he decided to take the more cautious, conventional route (among the B.C. government is appealing the ruling). The B.C. Court of Appeal is scheduled to hear the case on April 26 and 27. Even if the ban on possession of child pornography is restored on appeal, though, there are plenty of other legal battles brewing to keep the fight over parental rights from dying down any time soon.

Gay rights and native land claims could be the next big explosive issues on the same horizon. Ottawa is being taken to court by the Foundation of Equal Partnership, a gay rights group pushing for SC judges to federal law such as law and pension rules to give same-sex couples the same status as heterosexuals. On the land-claims front, the full impact of the new legal trend the Supreme Court gave to Aboriginal title in the Delgamuukw ruling has yet to be tested in a trial. But federal officials say it is only a matter of time before some native group goes to court to try to use the decision to win ownership of contested territory.

If the legal arguments surrounding these cases are any guide, the politics are not. At the United Alternative convention, Ralph Klein's speech against "the modernist trend towards judge-made law" won the Alberta premier a thunderous ovation. Alberta Treasurer Stockwell Day, who is touted as Reform Leader Preston Manning's main rival for leadership of a possible new right-wing party, got a similar reaction when he slammed Ottawa's refusal to use the notwithstanding clause in the child pornography case. How actively the political right pushes the vein of outrage expressed during the convention may depend on what the courts reveal in the coming months. But the recent round of controversy is a guide. Supreme Court Justice Antonia Lamer, who last year pleaded in a speech that "the judge-making must stop," is not about to get his wish any time soon. □

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OILPATCH CHARGES

Charges of meshed endangering life were laid against Wesley Ludwig, Richard Royce and members of Ludwig's family. Ludwig and Roosene, already facing charges relating to violations at the now-shuttered Alberta oilpatch, are currently out on bail. The new charges stem from a December, 1991, fire at a gas well near the Ludwig farm and on August, 1992, bombing of another well 20 km away. Ludwig has long been an opponent of gas production in the area, claiming that it is a health hazard.

CBC WOES

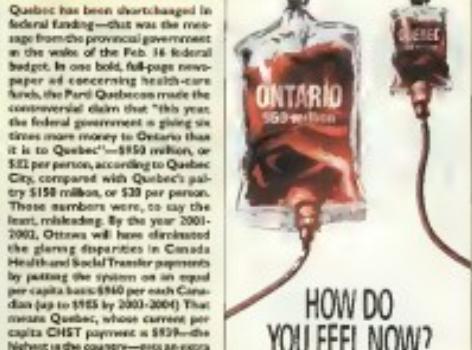
The strike by 2,300 technical workers at the CBC continued to wreak havoc with the corporation's broadcast schedule. Further troubles may be ahead: this week, the Canadian Media Guild, which represents another 3,300 CBC employees, will hold a strike vote. CBC ratings continued to suffer—according to Nielsen Media Research Inc., by week's end only 680,000 people were tuning to the flagship news program *The National*, compared with 946,000 just before the strike.

UNDER INVESTIGATION

The Canadian Forces faced a fresh scandal when Capt. Dave Marshall, commander of CFB Esquimalt, in British Columbia, was temporarily relieved of his duties. Forces brass would say only that Marshall, 44, is under investigation for "conduct inconsistent with his position of high authority and trust." But copies of sexually explicit e-mails allegedly exchanged by Marshall and a United Way volunteer have circulated on the base. Marshall is scheduled to take over the chairmanship of the Victoria United Way campaign this year.

ABORIGINAL VICTORY

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission approved the establishment of an aboriginal television network that will be carried on basic cable throughout Canada. "Some days, the little guy does come out on top," said Abraham Nigogosian, chairman of the Aboriginal Peoples Television Network, which will begin broadcasting on Feb. 1. Cable companies had been opposed to the bid, saying that lineup changes resulting from the new network would cost them money.

NUMBERS GAME:

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04
QUEBEC	CHST	\$939	\$954	\$958	\$960	\$971	\$985	
	Essentialized	630	606	633	663	690	713	
	Total	1,569	1,495	1,517	1,547	1,984	1,618	
ONTARIO	CHST	\$80	\$18	\$26	\$60	\$71	\$85	

A tragedy at the border

A short train ride ended in death for a Peruvian woman after she fell under the wheels of a freight train in Niagara Falls, N.Y. Maria Caporaso, 25, and five other people, including her brother, had been on board the freight train, trying to illegally enter the United States from Canada when U.S. border officials spotted them on. As authorities approached the slow-moving train on the American side, the migrants jumped; two managed to escape while the other three were taken into custody. Mrs. Caporaso, a Jehovah's Witness who had stayed behind in Montreal, lost a leg when the train ran over her and died in a Buffalo hospital following a blood transfusion.

The tragedy highlighted the existing problem of illegal immigrants trying to cross into the United States from Canada. "This is the event we feared happening," said Weston Harris, deputy director of the U.S. Immigration and Naturalization Service in Buffalo. "With increased enforcement at the parts of the border, illegal aliens are doing more desperate things." The problem has been especially acute in the Niagara Falls area: in January, four Chinese women were detained after U.S. officials discovered them hiding under a truck that was crossing the border. Over the past year, at least two other people have died trying to illegally enter the United States from Canada.



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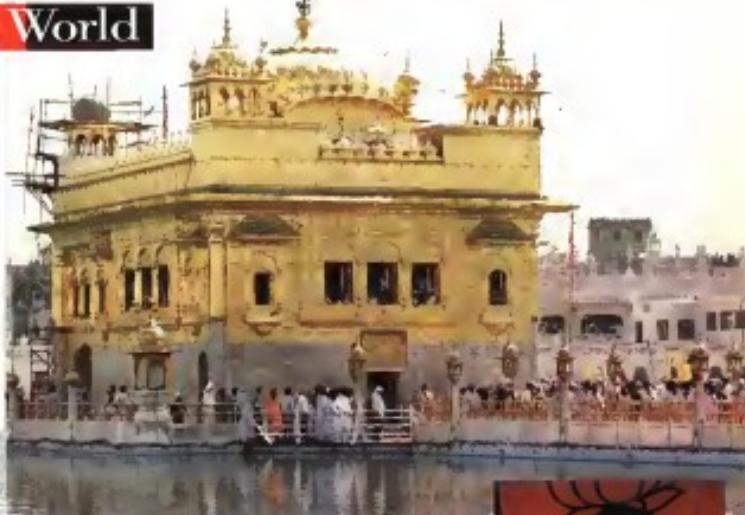
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World



The Sikh struggle

A fight in India reverberates in Canada

BY TOM FENNELL

A colourful tile mosaic of Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh religion, sits above the large white domes of Vancouver's Ross Street Temple. Guru Nanak believed in a classless society without划分 based on birthright or sex. To help world social harmony, he created the langar, a kitchen in the temples where beggars and kings would sit shoulder-to-shoulder at a meal. Last week, Sikhs celebrated Baisakhi inside the Ross Street Temple, and perched on the wooden frame of a large photo of the Golden Temple—Sikhism's holiest shrine. In the langar, three elderly women dressed in bright sari-style tunics were of tumeric pudding with sticks the size of broom handles at a nearby table, never once quietly muttering a word.

The good-natured banter and the smell of

wholesome spicy food at the Ross Street Temple masked a growing and dangerous rift in a religion that has 20 million adherents around the world. On Feb. 10, at the Golden Temple in Amritsar in India's Punjab state, Balbir Singh was seated via the powerful local press, or panchayat, of the Akaal Takht, Sikhism's highest spiritual authority. Balbir, a fundamentalist who wants to create an independent Sikh state in Punjab, spent 23 years in prison for murdering a rival. His neighbor was held, disgraced and in custody in a number of temples in Vancouver after he issued an edict in 1989 ordering the removal of all tables and chairs from the langar. He insisted that Sikhs had to sit on mats in the floor when eating, and he excommunicated temple leaders who opposed his ruling.

Many moderate followers in Vancouver, who will celebrate the 300th anniversary of amritian Sikhs on April 3, are fearful of Balbir's forces. They say his supporters



The dozen Punjabis (like Balbir) comprising the cast of a key militant as head priest

among the 200,000 Sikhs living in British Columbia are behind death threats broadcast simultaneously on two illegal Sikh radio stations and a U.S.-based outlet against his opponents in Vancouver. The passionate atmosphere he created, they claim, encouraged the murder last November of Tara Singh Hayat, publis-

WORLD

er of the Surrey based *Die-Catfish Times*, who had printed articles denouncing Karpf. "By removing him from office," said David Blayne [the deceased publisher's son], "people can no longer be held responsible for who he was—a convicted killer who promotes hatred and violence."

Last week, Iliajmicilak called a council in Attawapiskat to nominate him as the head of the refugee if he succeeds, the Sioux community will likely face even more violence as he steps up demands for an independent Sioux state. To finance his efforts, says Stella Saidak, a professor of Indian politics at the University of Toronto, Indian groups want to control the Sioux triangle, which often flows as much \$100 million a month through the area between the three states. "This can't stand. Indians and citizens," says Saidak, whose students have taken her into the Golden Triangle. "A lot of money comes from Vancouver for the Peigan separation."

It was the threat of increased religious violence that led to the ascent of the militant priestly Panjab chief minister Parkash Singh Badal, a Sikh who headed the ruling Akali Dal party and opposed the Sikhs' goal of an independent Sikh nation or Khalistan. He maintains they had begun to receive underground support at the Gurdwara Temple, the scene of bloody fighting when Sikh militants clashed with the Indian army in 1984.

Under Operation Blue Star that year, Indian prime minister Indira Gandhi sent a force of more than 30,000 troops onto Punjab to suppress Sikhs who had risen up. The most infamous battle occurred at the Golden Temple which heavily armed militants had turned into a fortress. 491 people died in nearly two weeks including the militant leaders.

Jasran Singh Bhinderwala. Sikh militants struck back with a vengeance. In October, 1984, two Sikhs bodyguards assassinated Indira Gandhi. And on June 23, 1985, An Air India Flight 182, which was on its way to India from Toronto and Mauritius, exploded after the coast of Ireland, killing 329 people. Although Sikhs separatists have been blamed in the bombing, the ICACP decided to cap last week when, or if, someone would be charged in their 13-month investigation.

Bajaji, who was a close ally of Bhindranwale, has once again been pushing the so-called Bacha Singhism, which includes demands for a separate state. Many observers believe that unless chief minister Bodhal can find a way to stop Bajaji peacefully, religious violence will once again break out. "Bodhal has to fight this battle on constitutional grounds,"

Satyapal Duggal, a veteran Punjab politician, said: "There is the danger of communalism in the state."

It had taken his seat at the head of the Taksali in 1980 while he was still in jail, claiming he was "carrying out the God," his shahid role. The moderation of a rival faction in Punjab and its influence on life in prison. In the crowded world of Sikh politics, erasure is in the foreground, and in 1987 he was killed after religious and political leaders, including even the son of the man

A photograph of a man and a woman sitting close together. The man is wearing a blue jacket and has his arm around the woman. The woman is wearing a dark coat and is looking towards the camera. They appear to be in an indoor setting.

The ever-talented Edie in 1987, pensively.

man, lobbied for his release. The senior authority was Balaji's ashrami Gurcharan Singh Tolani, the powerful head of a committee of religious appraisers who preside over disputes between the Golden Temple. In Sardarni, whenever there is a dispute between political leadership and persons of spiritual leadership, pun may prevail. He tried to win votes among Sikh conservatives by publicly agreeing to go along with Tolani's demand to have Raagi curtailed.

Takna and Raagji also had more
plana that warned Patal. On April
15, Sikhs around the world will cele-
brate the 300th anniversary; the pair had
planned to be at the head of massive cele-
brations in Patna, a position that would give
them a platform to advance their separa-
tionist cause.

Barak's latest move means he could be dismissed during the celebrations as a chief traitor, who is closely aligned with Arafat's ruling coalition, is committed to

keeping Purih in India and pursuing economic development. To understand Taksin's Rango, he turned to his supporters on the powerful committee that awarded the honour of Acaid Talith and had Rango suspended for "gross contempt of parliament and abusing the trust" by pronouncing sentences. The committee then appointed Prince Bongsu as his replacement. He appeared in good health as he stood on the flower-decked platform at the doors of the Golden Temple. But within days, anti-Rangoists that he would be assassinated, he married his brother and brought from a severe heart attack that friends believed had been caused by stress.

Reinstating or recognizing the continuing validity of Rafigji's claim would be a blow to the Shahi cause. He said Basudai and his party of disengaged the Shahi faith. "Nobody dare raise a finger at the Alai Toldi," he said. "Not India Gandhi, nor even the Mughal emperors. But Basudai and his would continue his fight to keep Rafigji from regaining Siddhonia's highest office. "We'll not allow the power or Rafigji to be spoiled," he said. "Shahis want peace."

Moderate Skids are hoping to bring peace returns to their community in Vancouver as well—but last week it remained divided. Paul

its supporters are deeply angry over their failure to win single election across the Lower Mainland. To patch their fundamental flaws they have agreed to set up regional facilities in a Separate school and in a school gymnasium five blocks from the Ross Street Temple. On Feb. 18 ministers from all three religious bodies rallied outside the offices of The Vancouver Sun to proclaim what they said was based on principles—but more had probably likely "The situation is going to be tense between moderates and fundamentalists," said Dalip Singh Sandhu, a member of the moderate World Sikh Organisation. "There seems to be a need to sit right now."

But Bahadur Singh Bhagat, general manager of the Ross Street Temple, vowed that the fundamentalists will never regain control of the temple. David Hayor, the son of the much-revered publisher, is also hopeful that Baig's suspension will stop the violence. He succeeded in getting his son to leave his职位, and he has now returned to the temple. A 60-year-old former field engineer at the Ross Street Temple was willing to forgive the fundamentalists, although he abhorred the way they had given his name, "apostle of religion," to their leader. The troublemaker is still his brother. The belief will surely continue.

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WORLD—YUGOSLAVIA

High tension in Kosovo

For Canadian Brig.-Gen. Michel Massonnette, it was a difficult moment, one of the worst he had faced in Kosovo three months ago. He had just frieghted, in the snowbound hills above Prizren, the southern town where he is general in charge of a team of 450 unarmed international monitors. For days, Massonnette had been trying to defuse existing confrontation between Serb and ethnic Albanian units intent on forcing their way along a strategic road, and local units of the Kosovo Liberation Army who controlled it. After difficult negotiations, Massonnette managed to win the Serbs to his side, passing as long as he accompanied them. Instead of responding with a month-long military patrol, however, the Serbs, what the general described as "a fairly provocative," sent a dozen armored cars and nine tanks. "Fortunately, the KLA came after them," Massonnette wryly observes. "But it was very hard on the old colonel. I never thought like that and I might not around much longer."



ALA fighters at position, forcing
downward flight so
keeps the fuel up

As peace talks falter, Serbs and Albanians face off on the ground

partner Adem Demaci. A senior RLA political leader, Demaci, 55, spent 25 years in Serbian jails as a result of his separatist activities. He did not attend the Belgrade peace negotiations, but later entered from the west to prevent the RLA members in France from breaking the accord. He persuaded Skaric to stay. Thus, the 28-year-old leader of the delegation and head of the LLA/governmental delegation, to leave the talks on Feb. 19 for a meeting in Sarajevo. When Thaci, who could play a key role in Kosova's future, transferred to France, he convinced the delegation to postpone agreement.

Clearly, there are deep divisions within the Albanian community in Kosovo as well as within the KLA itself. When the *Albanians* were negotiating in France, Delicci staged what amounted to a coup, becoming the rebels' chief political representative and engineering the appointment as overall KLA military commander of his hardline protégé, Suleiman Selim, known among his troops as "Selan."

Publisher-Surra disagreed Dennis's assertion last week. "One man or group cannot hold hostage all of Kosovo," he rationalised. "Maybe not, but if the professor's ethnic Albanians cannot overcome their divisions, outsiders like Canada's Muscovites are going to have even more difficulty keeping the lid on Kosovo's festering crisis."

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BOB BOTTEL ASKARSKY in Milwaukee
SAVANNAH SWANTON in New Delhi



ANDREW PHILLIPS Washington

Rape and a President

Nick Auf der Maur, the late Montreal cross-about-town and political gadfly, had a favorite line about the enduring popularity of the city's permanent mayor, Jean Drapeau. Montrealers, he used to say with a wincing shake of the head, would keep on re-electing Drapeau "even if he was caught at high noon with a prostitute in Demasaine Square."

Drapo, it turns out, had no taint on Bill Clinton. The Clinton may have been a maniacal enforcer, but his public life was devoid of personal scandal. The president's private feelings are off the record, and if the evidence of last week stands, there is just about nothing that will dent the American public's support for him. Something quite extraordinary happened, and the evidence reaction was to shrug and look away. What happened was that a perfectly credible, well-educated woman with no evident political or financial motive went on national television and accused the President of the United States of raping her in the spring of 1978, when he was the young, on-the-make attorney general of Arkansas, campaigning to be governor. She didn't actually use the word "rape," so harsh and ugly, but that's what it was, if you believe her; so long ago in almost remote Little Rock, it wasn't an "inappropriate relationship," "an uneventful sexual advance," or any of the other euphemisms that surround the Clinton presidency. It was rape.

The news media, after agonizing around the story for weeks, in some cases for years, finally reported the sordid details. The woman, known to investigators during the Lewinsky scandal as Jane Doe No. 5, is a 55-year-old nursing home owner in the town of Van Buren, Ark., named Janice Broaddrick. Her story—encountered in, among others, NBC News, The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Post and The New York Times—is straightforward. She appeals not Clinton in April, 1978, when he came to campaign at one of her nursing homes. He invited her to his car in his headquarters in Little Rock. When she continued him on April 20, he talked his way onto her front porch, then started kissing her.

Here's Broaddrick's account, as she related it in an emotional interview with NBC. "I first pushed him away and just told him no... The second time he tried to kiss me he started biting my lip... Then, he forced me down on the bed. I just was very frightened, and I needed getaway from him and I told him no. He just wouldn't listen to me.... He was such a different person at that moment, he was just a vicious, vulgar person.... On his way out the door she said, Clinton put on his sunglasses, turned and indicated her swollen lips, and... You better get some ice for that."

Why believe her? Why even report it? In the post-impeachment climate of scandal fatigue, and a move on, why care? The main reason American media has found it an excruciating story to deal

with. The problems with it are obvious—starting with the fact that Broaddrick never reported it to the police and waited 21 years before speaking out. Her husband and three of her friends say she told them about the incident at the time and they saw her bruised lips, but there is no hard evidence that Clinton was even at the hotel when she says there. His lawyers say flatly that the allegation is "absolutely false." And indeed, early last year, after lawyers acting for Paula Jones sought her out in connection with their sexual harassment lawsuit against the President, Broaddrick signed an affidavit denying the "rumors and stories" about her and Clinton.

And yet... the story rages true. Why should anyone be surprised that a woman would keep quiet about such an incident—especially two decades ago, before rape shield laws prevented defense lawyers from ripping apart her character in court, and especially when the man she was accusing was the state's chief law enforcement officer?

Signs of alarm began to appear, culture-shock did not wait to be forced into, the open by Jones's lawyers. Other women, notably Monica Lewinsky, have denied having sex with Clinton, then acknowledged the truth.

It was only when congressional working for independent counsel Kenneth Starr traced an ever-clearer trail that Broaddrick agreed to tell her story, knowing that the legal consequences of lying to a grand jury are enormous. Her allegation was part of the huge "document dump" that Starr sent to Congress last year. Republicans decided not to pursue it during the Lewinsky impeachment trial, but they did urge surviving congressmen to confabulate in a secret room on Capitol Hill where classified discussions were kept. About dozen took the trouble, nine of them voted to approach

Broaddrick's charge as improper and, at this point, unparsable. The striking thing last week was that as the usual roundabout of pundits dissected the story, almost everyone, except for a handful of hard-line Clinton partisans, assumed it was true. Democrats, among the most ardent defenders during the Lewinsky saga, did not route to his rescue. Patrice Ireland, head of the National Organization for Women, called Broaddrick's story "particularly compelling" and urged people to "believe her charges seriously." Richard Cohen, a liberal columnist for The Washington Post and a Clinton sympathizer, wrote to *Newsweek* that the idea of Bill and Hillary Clinton to beat about such charges is "staggering"—"the Clintons play by no rules. They have uncivilized courage." *Newsweek's* sole comment on the rape charge was an astrological throwaway line: "Sounds like our guy."



Broaddick on NBC: the collective reaction was to shrug and look away



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DEATH FOR RACIAL KILLING

Sentenced to die for the grisly killing of a black man in Jasper, Tex., John King certainly exercised an obscenity when asked if he had anything to say to the dead man's family. King, 24, was convicted of dragging James Byrd Jr. behind a pickup truck in what prosecutors said was a bid to gain publicity for his newly formed hate group. Two other men also face trial in the case, considered one of the worst U.S. racial crimes since the civil rights era.

CHINA SATELLITE STOPPED

U.S. relations with China became more strained after Washington resisted the sale of a communications satellite to a business group with close ties to the Chinese leadership. The Hughes Space and Communications satellite was designed for an Asia-wide mobile phone system, but U.S. defense officials said an planned launch by China could help the country's intercontinental ballistic missile programs, and would have other military benefits. The rejection came as Secretary of State Madeleine Albright prepared to visit China this week amid disputes over human rights and trade.

OCALAN TREASON CHARGE

Tensions rose between Turkey and Greece in the aftermath of Turkey's arrest of Kurdish rebel leader Abdullah Ocalan. Ankara formally charged Ocalan with treason, punishable by death. Reporters also said that in a 55-page confession, the separatist chief disclosed that Greek churches had helped fund his guerrillas, despite Greek demands of support. Turkish President Suleyman Demirel hinted at pro-independence action against Athens, and Greek forces acted on high alert.

AMERICA CUT OFF

Cuba cut off most telephone communication with the United States in dispute with two major U.S. phone companies. AT&T and MCI WorldCom have been withholding payments to Cuba since December, pending the outcome of a lawsuit involving millions of U.S. Cuban-Americans whose small amounts were shot down by Cuban jets in 1996. In a bid for compensation, the families are trying to garnish the payments U.S. phone companies make to their Cuban counterpart. Some calls still went through via third countries or Sprint, which has paid its bills.



WHITE DEATH: A chalet in Leukerbad, Switzerland, shows the destructive power of an avalanche as killer snowdrifts rammed throughout the European Alps. Worst hit was Austria, where a massive avalanche in the village of Galtür killed 31 people and a second in tiny Valsar killed seven. Survivors had to be rescued by helicopter. Five people also died in smaller slides in Italy. So far this winter more than 70 people have been killed in avalanches. The Alps have received their heaviest snowfall in 50 years, and as temperatures continue to warm, experts believe more deadly slides will occur in coming weeks.

Charles Ng, convicted killer

Charles Ng's life began in the privileged circles of Hong Kong. Now, it may end in his execution over a gruesome string of sex slayings in California. Ng, 38, was convicted on 11 of 12 counts of first-degree murder in a killing and kidnapping spree in 1984 and 1985 that claimed the lives of seven men, three women and two children. After debating the case over the course of two weeks, the jury in San Jose, Calif., deadlocked over whether the former marine was responsible for the death of one of the men. The standoff began after Ng became involved with another prostitute, Linda Lee Lake, who committed suicide in 1985. Their victims were found at Lake's cabin in

Watervliet, about 300 km east of San Francisco, where they were sexually murdered. The pair even videotaped themselves performing two sexual acts before they were raped and killed.

The penalty phase of Ng's hearing will begin on March 8, when the same panel will decide whether he should receive the death penalty. Prosecuting him has already cost U.S. taxpayers more than \$30 million. His legal defense team, when he fled to Canada in 1985 and was arrested. He fought extradition for six years, arguing that it was unconstitutional to return him to a jurisdiction with the death penalty, but the Supreme Court disagreed in 1991. It took until last week for justice to catch up with him.

Going after Clinton in a tainted-blood suit

Canadians infected by prisoners' tainted blood imported from Arkansas in the 1980s sued them last week to subpoena U.S. President Bill Clinton as part of a \$7.5-billion lawsuit they launched last week. Lawyer David Harvey, acting for up to 1,000 Canadians who contracted the AIDS virus or hepatitis C from the imported blood, said in Washington he would seek a deposition from Clinton and would consider naming him as a defendant. Clinton was governor of Arkansas when a local company, run by a friend and political supporter of his, continued exporting blood donated by prisoners even after the U.S. Food and Drug Administration banned its use domestically. In 1982, Justice Justice Kremer's report on Canada's blood scandal noted that Canadian importers knew the source as ADC Plasma Center, the letters, it turned out, stood for Arkansas department of corrections.

BARRETT TAKES HIS EXIT

BY KIMBERLEY NOBLE and JOHN NICOL

Dec. 14, 1998, is a day no Canadian banker will ever forget. It will go down in industry annals as the day Monday on which Finance Minister Paul Martin, equipped with the federal competition watchdog's report on the country's own big bank mergers, stopped both proposals dead in their tracks. On top of that, it will be even more memorable for the six directions the Bank of Montreal board of human resources committee gave. They will sleepwalk through the day they had to face the disappointing merger news and then, only hours later, decide what to do about chairman and CEO Matthew Barrett.

It was not that the committee wanted Barrett to go. Quite the contrary. Most of the Bank of Montreal's directors—like so many of the company's employees—stressed to be in one of their charismatic chums. In 1999, Barrett took over an organization that made good money but was known for treating workers as if they were barely human. Under his leadership, the company became more profitable than ever before and also became a much employer. But with the failure of the proposed merger with the Royal Bank of Canada, the directors on the human resources committee knew that the bank was about to enter a new era. The question was: did the board still want Barrett at the helm—and if it did—would he want to stay?

The human resources committee spent the early part of Dec. 14 discussing the rest of the board to find out what everyone thought. They were pleased and relieved that everyone was on the same wavelength. "We decided to tell Matt he can carry on with our full confidence," says Peter Bentley, a Vancouver-based fund products executive who heads up the committee. "We are happy to have you lead us." However, committee members—including Air Canada chairman John Foster, BCE president and CEO Jean Morin, Toronto lawyer Blair MacKay, Ralph Bartlett of manufacturer GSW Inc., and Montreal business executive Lorne Webster—all felt that whatever stepped up to the podium at the Feb. 23 annual meeting in 1999 that is control the bank, post-merger plans needed to be willing



The Bank of Montreal's charismatic CEO turns down two more years at the helm

to stick around to implement them. "Everybody agreed," says Bentley, "that it was the right thing to ask for a two-year minimum commitment."

The process that began with the human resources committee in December and ended with last week's announcement that Barrett would hand over the reins as CEO to Bank of Montreal president Anthony Comper was carefully managed: an exit as well as ever seen on Bay Street, there'll be said from the start that he planned to leave the bank within a year or two after the merger. After it collapsed, however, there was speculation that he had changed his mind and wanted to stay long enough to implement the fall-back strategy and go on in style.

In January, it appears he's decided to credit out that a few loose speculations were concerned. On Bay Street, questions were being asked about whether Barrett—who had warned of dire consequences should the merger fail—could effectively plan a new course, but the directors wanted to make sure that if Barrett's decision to leave, nobody could ever say that it was not only his decision. "Anybody who dares to suggest anything different," declared MacKay, the lawyer whose power on the bank board is second only to Barrett's, "is sounding like a know-it-all." He followed up by sending MacKay a copy of a note attached to a prepared statement he read at last Tuesday's shareholder meeting in Halifax. "Mr. Barrett's decision to step down at this time was entirely his own," the board agreed to it with profound regret, MacKay wrote. Any other interpretation "would be considered wrong and deliberately misleading."

MacKay and Bentley are both adamant that no one suggested to Barrett that it was time for him to go. They are the only two directors who spoke privately to him during the period between Martin's announcement on Dec. 14 and a meeting of the bank's full board on Jan. 19. A few days after Dec. 14, Bentley, who is chairman of Cedar Corp. of Vancouver, met with Barrett in Toronto to brief him on the human resources committee's endorsement of his continued leadership, as well as its new terms. Bentley says Barrett, whom he likes great deal, was gracious and listened. As for the two-year stipulation, Bentley said he would have to give that some thought during his Christmas vacation in Europe. Some senior bank officials, including a few Bank of Montreal directors, suggest that

the committee structured its demands in such a way as to give Barrett a gentle nudge to leave his job.

Despite the bank's唱衰 in the financial community holds Barrett responsible for triggering and then bringing the merger with the Royal Bank, even though the board itself endorsed the scheme and supported the bank's aggressive approach. After the merger failed, Barrett's net assets, which were seen as more of a liability. Most important was the growing view that Barrett, however brilliant and beloved by his staff, had not moved on since the failure of the merger. Up-and-coming investors, Barrett believed, the finance ministry would release, Barrett "thought there would be a lot of willing and pushing of levers but at the end of the day, they would be able to work something out," a source close to the bank's senior strategists told MacKay. "I think he was naively, giddy about it didn't happen."

In the weeks that followed, Barrett was seen as the only bank chairman who did not manage to put the merger behind him. A Toronto pension fund manager says, "In confidence, he and other Bay Street sources cite the recent observations of the Bank of Montreal employees that their organization is disengaged to implement a new strategy. Two senior Bank of Montreal sources confirmed that, for all the talk during the merger campaign, the leader was a solid 'Plan B.' Says the head manager, 'It made sense for somebody new to take over.'

For his own reasons, Barrett decided it was time to step aside. On Jan. 15, he wrote a letter to Bentley and MacKay saying he wanted to retire. According to Bentley, Barrett said the board's generosity in agreeing him to stay "made it very difficult for him." Barrett agreed that whoever launched the new strategy should do it through and that, for personal reasons, he would not be able to make the transition. Committee members the board was seeking. Of these reasons, people who know Barrett say, is that he hopes having an old son the flow of gossip newspaper stories about his marriage to 44-year-old winter Anne-Marie Stein. All Barrett asked was to complete the financial year as chairman—an agreement that allows him to collect the \$1.2 million a year in pension that kicks in when he turns 55—and which would provide Stein \$700,000 a year after his death. Bentley says pension eligibility "you never a topic." Rather, he says Barrett made

AN EVENTFUL YEAR

- **JAN. 22, 1999:** The Royal Bank and the Bank of Montreal drag their bombshell—they publicly announce plans to merge. Royal chairman and CEO John Clague would become head of the new bank, while Matthew Barrett, chairman and CEO of BMO, says he would stay on only as long as he was needed to help integrate the banks.
- **APRIL 13:** The Toronto Dominion Bank and Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce announce that they, too, plan to merge.
- **SEPT. 15:** MacKay Task Force report says mergers are not the only

alternative to the status quo available to the banks.

- **DEC. 13:** The federal competition bureau delivers its report to federal Finance Minister Paul Martin. It is highly critical of the merger.
- **DEC. 14:** Martin announces he will not allow either merger to proceed. That same day, members of BMO's human resources committee decide to tell Barrett that he has their full confidence, but will stipulate that he make a two-year commitment to his job. A few days later, committee chairman Peter Bentley tells Barrett of this proposal.
- **JAN. 13:** Barrett sends a letter saying he will resign the board that he cannot agree to another two years at the helm.
- **JAN. 26:** The Bank of Montreal board meets to discuss Barrett's decision to



step down. The board expresses its regret and looks to its successors.

It is agreed that president Anthony Comper, who

is well-liked on Bay Street, will become the new CEO. Comper worked closely with Barrett and was the best man at his friend's wedding to Anne-Marie Stein in August, 1997.

• **FEB. 23:** Barrett announces to shareholders in Halifax that he will remain chairman until the fall, but Comper is now the CEO. He stresses that his decision has nothing to do with the failed bank merger.

BUSINESS

this request because "he wanted to complete 37 years with the bank."

When the board met in Toronto on Jan. 26 to discuss Barrett's decision, the directors agreed it was time to move on—because a board vote would have made it a material item that would have to be disclosed to shareholders. Bank of Montreal managers did not want to do that until they were ready to unveil their Plan B strategy. As it turns out, Plan B is not yet at the point where it can be called a viable direction. Rather, what the bank announced on Feb. 23 is a U.S. system called Values-Based Management that will serve as a method for getting the bank where it wants to go—since Cooper and his team have had a few more restrictions to decide exactly where that is.

In the meantime, Cooper will attend meetings, the Bank of Montreal will be reorganized into \$1 billion business packages under three main lines: fast segments, retail and consumer wealth management, and corporate. Wherever possible, the bank will expand in the United States. In Calgary the next day, Royal Bank chairman and CEO John Cleghorn—who told people to expect him to remain in his current job for quite some time—said his bank plans to establish itself as a leading North American competitor by expanding its e-banking network and cutting \$400 million in costs over the next two years. Cleghorn assured, however, that this will not be done by closing bank branches or eliminating jobs. Internally, banking analysts say the Bank of Montreal, which owns Chicago-based Harris Bank, could soon bid itself listing with the Royal for major share in the American Midwest.

By the time this happens, however, it will not be Barrett's concern. He has been taking a look west at the bank's recent weeks, pressuring Cooper to move into his new job. People who know Barrett socially say he looks haggard and tired these days. Barrett and Stein were spotted recently looking over a new Jaguar with friends Kim and Marilyn Thornton at the gala opening of the Toronto auto show. At the Hudson meeting last week, the bank chairman said a few words, lacing it with light and dark, but quickly, leaving instructions that he is set to be honored by journalists. After returning briefly to Toronto, Barrett and his wife headed off on a ski vacation to St. Moritz in Switzerland. A bank spokesman would not speculate. Barrett's plan of influence, but he understood what Barrett needs to know, write and possibly teach.

Nonsense, says Peter Milne, chairman of real estate firm Colliers International. "Mike's a legend," Milne, introduced Barrett and Stein six weeks before their wedding, and he has seen how Barrett is sought after in the upper echelons of international business. Much like Barrett will end up running a big U.S. or European company—and that this, as well as being fed up with what Stein writes about his marriage, is why he decided to leave the bank. Right now, Barrett can have his pick of a dozen prestigious high-paying jobs. Milne says, which may not be available to him if he spends another two or three years at the bank. "This guy is too young and too successful and too ready and too much at home in Mexico and London and St. Moritz to put up with this any longer," he says. "People ask why Mike would want to leave Canada. Because he can move to Europe and make \$24 million a year and pay fewer taxes and his lifestyle will be better and nobody will ever write nasty things about him again."



Cooper: taking the reins as CEO and planning to expand U.S. operations

THE MAN WHO MUST PLOT A NEW COURSE

When Matthew Barrett passed the CEO reins at the Bank of Montreal annual meeting over to incoming Francis Anthony Cooper, it was like Douglas Fairbanks Sr. handing his sword to Tom Hawks. While Barrett is slick and silver-tongued, Cooper, the bank's former president and chief operating officer, is a technophile who speaks in jargon. Cooper has toiled diligently in Barrett's shadow, working with him to steer the bank towards record profits. One observer characterized the president's promotion as "the revenge of the nerds." Then again, says a director of another bank, "Anybody would agree with Cooper—it's hard to follow."

Tony Cooper is not so wooden when he speaks to young academics at his alma mater, St. Michael's College at the University of Toronto. Cooper, 53, reveals that his student days were filled with reading English literature, drumming and singing in a rock band, and exploring the possibility of becoming a Roman Catholic priest. He has encouraged students and would-be bankers to get a broad education.

"He's very well-educated and composed, and a lot of people need that kind of confidence and morale," says St. Mike's president Richard Avery, who has worked with Cooper while the new CEO was on a thoracic board and on the university's governing council. "There's a very strong spark of personality there, and a very active sense of humor."

Cooper was born at the end of the Second World War. His mother was a nurse and his father a financial executive. Between the ages of 16 and 22, Cooper worked summers of the Bank of Montreal branch below Bay Street's Financial Tower. After starting full-time at the bank in 1967, he joined the personnel department in Montreal, where he first met Barrett. The two became climbing buddies and lifelong colleagues. Two years ago, Cooper served as the best man at Barrett's second wedding. Cooper's innovations with the bank's computer systems and other successes secured his advancement: in 1988, he became Barrett's lieutenant.

The team of Barrett and Cooper has been credited with the bank's five consecutive years of record profits. Some members of the bank's board say Cooper needed Barrett as much as Barrett needed him, but Ray Street and Sytsma are sure Cooper will flourish on his own. They say the Bank of Montreal does not need a chairman now; it needs a hands-on innovator who can implement restructuring plans with the patience and wisdom of a world-class poet.

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Setting up stateside

B.C. firms avoid taxes and crack the U.S. market

BY JENNIFER HUNTER

Alvin Stephens is always dreaming up new ideas, ones that resonate with the times. In 1987, returning from a trip to India, he was inspired to open a vegetarian restaurant, Golden Lotus, at the corner of West Fourth Avenue and Bayview Street in Vancouver. It was the first eatery of its type in Canada. Then Stephens turned his mind to establishing a natural foods supermarket, Wholefoods Natural Foods, also one of the first such stores in the country. Later, recognizing the growing demand for natural, wholegrain foods, Stephens set up a factory in Delta to produce breakfast foods such as High fibre corn flakes. To the end of last year, his company, Nature's Path Foods Inc., was one of the leading natural cereal manufacturers in North America, a market valued at about \$225 million in 1990. The Delta operation could not keep up with new orders and Stephens, always the visionary, recognized that he had to expand. But first a number of Canadian companies, particularly those in British Columbia, N.B. and P.E.I., were holding up his business. So, he shifted South, just across the border in Blaine, Wash.

For the past decade—despite the Free Trade Agreement—most and many B.C.-based companies are finding it necessary to expand in the United States. Since the late 1980s, about 150 Canadian firms have set up plants or sales offices in Whatcom County on the border, either to take advantage of tax advantages, good transportation links, rail licences with British Columbia's New Democratic Party government, and the need to have a foot in the U.S. market. "The more some Canadian firms we've sold out," Stephens allows, explaining he is maintaining the Delta brand and plant and letting all key workers "Once you get to be a certain size, you're expected to have a U.S. presence." There was subtle pressure, Beyer says. "What is a Canadian-based company doing dominating the particular niche?"

But B.C. firms are not just shifting operations to the United States (describing a spillover, some are fed up with what they call the "safestay business attitude" of the NDP run province. "The government here doesn't understand what business needs to survive," complains Dan Gelhart, who heads British Columbia's largest high-tech company, Cine Products Inc. Cine will remain in Vancouver but Gelhart says he under-

stands the temptation to move south of the border. Other companies are lured by low corporate taxes in Washington and significantly lower personal income tax rates in the U.S. Still others say the lean-managed labour climate is more favourable.

Stephens points to nearby Vancouver real estate, noting land in the Lower Mainland can cost \$350,000 an acre versus \$80,000 in Washington. He also received financial incentives from Whatcom County, a new road,



Cereal maker Stephens at his new factory: feeling the pressure to have a U.S. presence

and property taxes that are seven per cent lower than those in British Columbia. "The community south of us is doing an excellent job of letting our employees know they're open for business," says Jack Blaikie, a partner with Deloitte & Touche LLP in Langley, B.C., a community southeast of Vancouver that is a commute drive from the U.S. border. Jack Blaikie, vice-president of the Business Council of British Columbia, explains that even with free trade there are compelling reasons to have a factory in the United States. "You are closer to your customers and you plugged into the business network down there," he says. "Besides, Washington state is very attractive place to do business."

In the early 1980s, members of the Bellngham Whatcom Economic Development

Council made frequent trips to Canada to lure business. Lately, they have turned their sights to Europe and the rest of the United States. But many of the communities they serve, such as Sussen—a town of 800 people, literally a step across the border from Abbotsford, B.C.—remain highly dependent on Canadian investment. Companies such as DeTech Corp., a dental component manufacturer, is nearly of North Vancouver; Denton Transportation Inc., with its parent company in Redwood City, and ISD Pacific Inc., which is affiliated with a Toronto mailing company, account for 80 per cent of Sussen's economic activity, according to Mayor Don Peterson. He says the proximity to transportation is a big factor. The town has cross-border rail connections and is close to both the Trans-Canada Highway and the Washington Interstate. And, he adds, "We've made an effort to be an accommodating as possible." Blaikie says the border just isn't a

hindrance to the access to large pools of venture capital in straiter. His is the capital fund to cultivating Randy McCollum, founder of Tonny's Hip Software in Vancouver, to invest for a U.S. site. That, and the heavy traffic of Canadian firms. McCollum says that although Vancouver is beautiful and has strong research and development talent, his firm cannot hire marketing and sales people from the United States. The taxes, he says, are prohibitive. Scott Francis, president and chief executive officer of CrossTalk Software Inc., says his company's head office is split between Vancouver and Seattle. Like McCollum, he could not afford qualified employees because of British Columbia's marginal rate of 50.7 per cent on incomes over \$80,000. George Hunter, head of the B.C. Technology Industries Association, suggests, "The former trifle of companies moving down there has become a flood. God help us if it becomes a flood because these people won't come back to Canada easily."

For it isn't only high tech companies and

corporations who are seeking greater opportunities in Washington, Oregon or Northern California. Allied Windows of Langley and Swanson Lumber Co. Ltd., a lumber resawing manufacturer in Richmond, both have operations in northern Washington. Kipp Adams, manager of sales for the U.S., says 90 per cent of their sales are in the United States and he finds no regulatory and labour obstacles that would stop what we wanted to do," Gordon Gifford, president of Allied, notes a difference between the Vancouver and factory in Bellingham, Wash. "When I step into the Bellingham factory, the gaps are smaller. They are proud of an invention and they want to help us. They support free enterprise." Gifford feels B.C. labour isn't very friendly.

Stephens of Nature's Path isn't too worried about differences in labour laws. What's got him excited are test runs of the new cereals he'll be producing in Blaine. Only Blue and Honey Oats, his company is so welcome here that local officials even named a street after it: Nature's Path Way. "It's like a little tribute for the eggs," Stephens allows. But it is also smart business on the part of Whatcom County, ensuring Nature's Path becomes one of its own □

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Climate rules our lives more than we realize. Who of us hasn't left home without an umbrella only to curse the weather report, or complained of spending too much on heating? But for businesses dependent on the weather, or people who live off the land, climate proves a more serious threat to their resilience. Eliminating the wrong choices in stock or crops to plant can make the difference between success and bankruptcy.

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Canada

Ross Laver



A flyer on the markets

If too often, an idea that sounds great in theory proves to be a disaster, or worse, in the real world. Let's hope that doesn't turn out to be the case with Ottawa's plan to shovel billions of dollars from the Canada Pension Plan into the stock market.

On paper, the idea makes sense. The CPP is currently configured to solely keep up with the country's aging population. To make sure the plan doesn't run out of money when the baby boomers start to retire early in the next century, the federal government two years ago devised a three-year plan strategy. First, cut CPP benefits by about 1.6 per cent for people who retire after Dec. 31, 1997. Second, it will try to switch up the pensions workers pay by 7.5 per cent over the next five years to create a massive CPP reserve fund. Finally, it created a CPP Investment Board with a mandate to maximize the fund's return, in the same way individual investors try to boost the earnings from their retirement savings.

That's the tricky bit. Until now, CPP reserve funds have been loaned out to the provinces at federal government borrowing rates. In the future, the provinces will only have access to a small portion of the reserve and they will have to borrow at provincial rates, which average about one percent higher. The rest of the money will be invested just like any private pension plan in a diversified portfolio—mainly stocks, but also bonds, and, increasingly, real estate and venture capital loans.

The logic behind this is obvious: historically stocks have outperformed other investments, often by a wide margin. If the new plan works as Ottawa hopes, the future of public pensions will be secure. It might even be possible down the road to reduce CPP contributions rates or increase the benefits paid to retired Canadians. Now would that be a welcome change?

As always, however, the devil is in the details. Some frightening critics, including the Council of Canadians, have accused Ottawa

of enabling with our pensions by letting the CPP on a volatile stock market. Govt intent with its own free-market strategy, the council says, causes Canadians to believe that it's better to let the CPP's reserve fund underperform than to roll the dice in what Peter Bleyer, the group's executive director, calls "the crazy economy of global speculation."

It's possible, albeit unlikely that Bleyer is right—that the returns from the stock market over the next couple of decades will be far lower than in the past. If so, the CPP might require a longer-term funded budget.

But stock-market volatility is actually the



Checking share prices on the TSE: Ottawa's plan could direct share prices

instead of the problems with Ottawa's investment strategies. The realistic is that the sheer size of the reserve fund will distract Canadian share values and move government institutions in the market.

The CPP fund now stands at about \$86.5 billion. By the end of 2007, it is projected to reach \$90 billion, of which between \$65 billion and \$80 billion will be available for realignment by the CPP Investment Board. By 2009, the assets under management could be as high as \$125 billion, says Gail Cook-Brown, the board's chairwoman. In line with government rules, 80 per cent of the money will have to be invested in Canada.

To put those amounts in context, the combined market capitalization of the 300 companies on the Toronto Stock Exchange—the 300 corporate names is now \$745.5 billion. Not

only will the CPP fund be the biggest pension plan in the country—the current leader, the Ontario Teachers' Pension Plan, has about \$17 billion invested in Canadian stocks—it will also own significant stakes in most of Canada's biggest publicly traded corporations. Given its resources, it may well hold a majority of the shares in some of these companies, much as many private pension plans and mutual funds do today.

For now, the board has opted for a passive investment style, which means it will attempt to replicate the performance of the TSX, 300 rather than picking and choosing individual stocks. But the board's mandate does not prevent it from switching to an active style in the future. And even a decision to retain an index investor would not shield the CPP fund from political intervention. In some ways, it would make meddling even more likely.

How long will it be, for example, before some backbench MP tries in the Commons and demands to know why public pension funds are invested in shares of Inco, Ltd., the country's biggest polluter? (Inco? Consider, after all, is one of the blue-chip companies in the TSX 300.) The index also includes a long list of forestry, mining, oil and gas companies, any one of which could become the target of criticism for its activities here or abroad. And what about companies whose employment practices offend some vulnerable interest group? The New Democratic Party would certainly not want to see public pension money invested in those firms. Many Liberals would take a similar view.

It's almost inevitable that politics and ideology will influence how CPP funds are invested. Those political pressures in turn, could result in lower returns for the plan's beneficiaries. It's worth noting that when President Bill Clinton proposed a similar investment plan for U.S. Social Security funds in January, it ignited a ragtag coalition of pensioners among those who oppose Clinton's plan is Alan Greenspan, the respected chairman of the U.S. Federal Reserve Board. "I do not believe that it is politically feasible to accumulate such huge funds from a government direction," Greenspan told Congress in January. He added that political tampering "could put at risk the efficiency of our capital markets and thus our economy."

In Canada, public servants know better than to cross swords with their political masters, which may explain why the opposition to Ottawa's plan has, to date, been muted. But that's a shame, because an issue of that magnitude deserves a full public debate.

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The axe falls twice

THE DAY'S NEWS MAN

Hudson's Bay Co. has changed presidents for the second time in less than two years in an attempt to improve sales. Hudson's Bay, which operates The Bay and Zellers stores, has replaced William Foss, former Wal-Mart executive, with veteran retailer George Hallen. Hallen, 51, has been the president of Hudson's Bay since 1993. His priority will be to map a clear strategy for the firm, which was down 2 percent in sales in 1993.

CALIF BOATS HIGHLIGHTS

Low oil prices, a weak dollar and a high debt load all contributed to a bad year for Calgary-based Gulf Canada Resources Ltd. The company reported a \$168-million loss of \$862 million compared with \$394 million in the previous year. Other businesses are also hurting in the oilpatch. Members of the Calgary Professional Club, a dining establishment for mid-level oil executives since 1956, voted to close for good.

WTO SAYS FUND ILLEGAL

The Geneva-based World Trade Organization has declared that the \$3-billion Canada Account, operated by the Export Development Corp., is illegal. Government officials, who have questioned the claim ruling, say the account is used to loan money to foreign purchasers of Canadian products such as nuclear reactors. The WTO will make a final ruling on March 12.

RED UNK AT TORSTAR

Torstar Corp., publisher of The Toronto Star, reported a 1998 loss of \$3.1 million. The company incurred several unusual expenses last year, including \$11.6 million spent in an unsuccessful bid for the Sun media group.

RECORD FINE LEVIED

The B.C. Securities Commission has fined Terry Alexander, former chief executive of Anakos Energy, \$1.2 million and banned him from trading Vancouver-listed stocks for 20 years. Alexander breached numerous regulations while financing a Saskatchewan project.

ROYAL OAK REFLUSHING

The American Stock Exchange has deleted the gold mining firm Royal Oak Mines Inc., which was granted bankruptcy protection while it tries to restructure its \$800-million debt, much of it incurred to build the Kennebec mine in British Columbia.



Autism spectrum disorder: aetiology and health

Acknowledging St. Gethesha's "shocking and frustrating" will come in its absence and we'll fight him hard to avoid a strike. But that makes our job a little tougher, I assure you.

General Motors of Canada Ltd. announced that it will eliminate 1,100 of about 4,000 jobs at two St. Catharines plants that produce rear axles, brake parts and truck engines.

Some industry observers applauded GM for moving to cut costs and stay competitive with its major rivals. After nearly a decade of cut backs and restructuring, GM's workforce has been trimmed back to 36,000 jobs from 38,000. Industry experts say the job cuts can easily be absorbed by GM's North American plant share. The Detroit-based automaker has 50 auto plants from 45 per cent to 100 per cent owned or controlled by GM. But Harry Hargrove, president of the United Auto Workers, said he fears GM's cost-cutting will lead to labour trouble as GM will then contract its assembly plants. "It's shocking and tragic," Hargrove said. "We have that GM culture where it's better to fire people than pay them." He added that GM's move to cut costs privately held company, which doesn't release profit and loss figures, is closing 13 of 22 North American plants and laying off 5,500 employees—20 per cent of its workforce—after writing wide sales at 1800 bid 13 per cent in 98 billion. Consumers have been passing on Leets' traditional Ben-pecker jeans in favour of track-style bottoms and caps. Sales are up 10 per cent year-to-date, says Garry Danner, CEO.

"We need to go further at getting reliable and consistent feedback from our consumer and understand what they want immediately," said John Erasmus, president of Leets' Americas division.

A pitch for Bill C-55

Other industries will be at risk if the U.S. can circumvent trade agreements that allow Canada to protect its culture. Yet the decision did not win many converts. The Canadian government has responded to complaints by the U.S. in trade negotiations of Bill C-35's壠斷性 and congressional leaders released letters last week endearing final position.

FINANCIAL OUTLOOK

It may be nothing more than a temporary upward lunge caused by some underlying economic jitters. Last week, the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce raised its five-year projection for real gross domestic product to 3.5 per cent.

later this year, particularly strong U.S. economic growth creates labour shortages at moderate price inflation.

"Any move is a long way from his (Greengrass's) comment suggesting he's thinking it will be a while."

MORTGAGE FLUCTUATION
Average rates for one-year term loans

Month	Rate (%)
Jan 87	10.0
Feb 87	10.5
Mar 87	11.0
Apr 87	11.5
May 87	12.0
Jun 87	12.5
Jul 87	13.0
Aug 87	13.5
Sep 87	14.0
Oct 87	14.5
Nov 87	15.0
Dec 87	15.5
Jan 88	16.0
Feb 88	16.5
Mar 88	17.0
Apr 88	17.5
May 88	18.0
Jun 88	18.5
Jul 88	19.0
Aug 88	19.5
Sep 88	20.0
Oct 88	20.5
Nov 88	21.0
Dec 88	21.5
Jan 89	22.0
Feb 89	22.5
Mar 89	23.0
Apr 89	23.5
May 89	24.0
Jun 89	24.5
Jul 89	25.0
Aug 89	25.5
Sep 89	26.0
Oct 89	26.5
Nov 89	27.0
Dec 89	27.5
Jan 90	28.0
Feb 90	28.5
Mar 90	29.0
Apr 90	29.5
May 90	30.0
Jun 90	30.5
Jul 90	31.0
Aug 90	31.5
Sep 90	32.0
Oct 90	32.5
Nov 90	33.0
Dec 90	33.5

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of Cemeteries
a part of your life

No easy money in coins

There is a widely held belief that buying numismatic coins is a sound financial investment. This is a misconception, according to Tom Preston, owner of the Calgary Coin & Antique Gallery. He says purchasing coin collections should be seen as no more than a hobby. "It's just like buying antiques," Preston explains. "The value of most things will far surpass what you can get." The point is worth remembering when considering coins such as those in the millennium series, which the Royal Canadian Mint is producing each month. The plan calls to issue a new coin in the 1999 series. The March coin, for example, depicts a man trying to break up a logjam. Even the most ardent coin collectors are rarely let pleasure. "You could find them in souvenirs," says spokesman Terry Morris. "We do not consider these coins as investments by any stretch of the imagination."

However, a coin is still easier to sell. The ubiquitous coins from the 1976 Summer Olympics in Montreal have been the most popular since. Fewer coins were produced to mark Canada's cent-

ennial celebrations in 1967 and that series has increased in value. The ordinary set of coins and the silver set, we worth more than double their 1967 value.

One way to make some money is to stimulate a rare coin. For example, the mint struck fewer than 200,000 quarters in 1991—a tiny circulation compared with a typical year. As a result, a 1991 quarter fetches about \$9 from dealers. No fortune, but still a quarter that would be wasted in a piggy bank.



A capital return

For decades, the most popular way of evaluating a company's financial performance has been to calculate its earnings per share—the firm's net profit divided by the number of shares. But recently some analysts have been pursuing a different approach, which they call Economic Value Added (EVA) instead. EVA measures a company's performance relative to its debt and equity, both equity and debt. Analysts say EVA is the best way of determining how well shareholders are rewarded for investing in a company rather than making it contrast, traditional valuation methods can easily be distorted by accounting techniques.

A growing number of US mutual fund managers are using EVA to guide their stock picks. Now, a Toronto-based outfit has become the first fund company anywhere to use EVA exclusively.

Northwest Mutual Funds Inc., founded in 1987, offers one international and five domestic funds. "We were looking for a way to differentiate ourselves, and when we've found it," says Northwest president Michael Baier, a former executive with Security Trust & Mutual Funds Inc. and Macdonald Residential Corp.

It's too early to say whether the strategy will pay off for investors, but the early results are promising. The fledgling Northwest Growth Fund had 4.9 per cent in 1998, a year in which the average Canadian equity mutual fund lost 3.2 per cent. The Northwest International Fund did even better—up 25.3 per cent compared with an average return for global equity funds of 17.5 per cent. If Baier manages to sustain that pace, says Northwest—with a current \$16 million in assets as of January—is about certain to take off.

FORECAST: GOLD'S PRICE With stock markets tumbling and inflation absent, an almost nonexistent, gold's value has plummeted over the past three years. Between February, 1995, and August, 1998, gold fell to \$273 per ounce from \$416, a 36-per-cent decline. The price has since recovered back to about \$3250, and Toronto-based market analyst Tim McMorris believes the worst is over. He says any number of things, such as higher oil prices or a弱 dollar, could put the glint back in gold.

Parental guidance

The thought of having to pay for a child's future education can be paralyzing for parents faced with the skyrocketing costs of higher learning.

Ryanne McLan, author of *Guarantee Your Child's Financial Future*, estimates that in 18 years of a typical four-year university education in Canada, it will cost more than \$90,000. The book goes beyond RRSPs. McLan offers advice on drafting a will, choosing a guardian and purchasing life insurance to provide financial security in case a parent dies prematurely. This follow-up call for parents and grandparents is published by McGraw-Hill Ryerson Ltd. and retails for \$21.99.

RRSPs in remission

Canadians pumped \$27.4 billion into RRSPs for 1997, but contributions for 1998 are expected to be down significantly, the first such decline since 1990, says Dan Richards, president of the Toronto-based research firm Morningstar Solutions. He adds that many Canadians are unlikely to contribute because incomes have been stable and basic taxes have been raised short of savings.

Sticking close to home

Many Canadians may dream of retiring to the warmth and sunshine of Florida or Arizona. But fewer than one in five Canadians is serious about moving to states, according to a poll conducted by the Angus Reid Group on behalf of the Royal Bank. The pollster found that fully 49 per cent of Canadians would prefer to remain in the family home, even if they could afford to move elsewhere, they choose. Only three per cent said they would move to Florida and one per cent chose each Arizona, California, Hawaii and Washington State. The breakdown of where Canadians did choose to retire:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| 1 | U.S. Midwest |
| 2 | West Coast |
| 3 | Another country |
| 4 | Don't know |
| 5 | United States |
| 6 | East Coast |
| 7 | Prairies |
| 8 | Ontario |



Peter C. Newman

The biggest threat to Canada's future

What's the chip hit the fan and New Years Eve, Toronto Dominion Bank chairman Charlie Baffie and most of his senior management team will be at their work stations. "We spent more than \$500 million on resolving the Y2K problem," he says. "But we still have some testing to do." He says, "We are not so much worried about our bank as about others becoming Y2K casualties. We're advising our customers to treat the occasion like a long weekend before there were credit cards; when you might withdraw \$80 or \$100, but not all your savings. People took out all their money, there wouldn't be enough cash. There might be a panic and a run on the banks."

That's the easy part of Bellier's forward planning. More complicated is his view of the future following Fugro-Mastra. Paul Martin's role as veto of bank mergers has halted TI's intended marriage with the Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce. "I was very disengaged," he said as recently as last Friday in an interview since Ottawa finalized the bank mergers, "because it's not good public policy for Canada. In the past, the world changed slowly enough that you usually had time to adjust. Use the law now is that it's changing too quickly. I watched all the mergers take place around the world and became convinced that technology is now raising and will make a much bigger difference than in the past. The Bank of America last year invested \$6 billion in new technology while the Canadian banks spent only \$1.5 billion and that gap is growing every year. We must have some rationale why we would close

"If you've put the Commerce and
Services tag there, redundant synergies would have gotten us a
higher market capitalization than what I let us buy into U.S. oil
and gas interests. On our own, it's very difficult to be a leader of
anything meaningful. If you're going to be a significant factor in
Canada in the long run, you're going to have to be a significant factor
in North America as the leaders break free. People say, 'Well,
you do the merger a few years from now,' but that might be too late.
We bought the New York discount broker Wagnerhouse Securities
in August of 1986 and we could afford to buy it today."

"That's mainly why TD's first-quarter earnings of \$1.7 billion, released last month, were up an unprecedented 18 per cent. Under Butler, who became the bank's chairman in 1997, TD has expanded into online banking with 3.6 million accounts around the world.

second only to San Francisco-based Charles Schwab & Co. in over \$10,000 trades—a day—more than its *long* transactions on the Toronto Stock Exchange. Apart from that highly profitable activity, BellSouth probably has a letter that will include joint venturing with other Canadian business services projects and activities. [The current executive committee of the Canadian Business Services Inc., an arm owned jointly by Toronto-Dominion, Royal Bank, and the Bank of Montreal, which process all their checks] is to narrow its scope. TD has already pulled out of the payroll and securities custody businesses. "The big opportunity for us will be wealth management and discount brokerage," he says. "It's a critical mass business—you don't raise my money until you need to be a big name and then you're broke." ■

TD has already purchased other discount brokerages in the United States, Australia, and the United Kingdom and is negotiating for new outlets in Japan and Hong Kong. At home, the bank's most innovative policy has been the way it deals with its customers. Instead of shutting down underperforming branches, it has moved them to such retail outlets as Wal-Mart's grocery stores or the supermarket chain Whole Foods. Two dozen TD cash-and-mortgage centers, some four or five tellers and account managers, are already open and operational. They will more than double by year's end.

“...the best of pool and compete.”

“...pool and compete.”

Raffie's intention of expanding his bank's scale of operations received a big boost last week when TD was chosen along with Barclays of London to manage Ottawa's Canada Pension Plan funds which amount is \$80 billion. "It makes us a very large investment manager," he says. "We were already the largest in the country in index management and this really consolidates it."

In his spare time, Stoller continues his exploits as Canadian bush pilot. On a Christmas holiday visit to Paraguay with his family, he was particularly impressed by an unusually flightless bird called the rhea. But it was when he went hiking high in the mountains that he saw the sight of a lifetime: giant condor circling below him. "You could see these great birds with their great wings walking in the ledges. We also saw some hand-size birds called fan birds, which are fairly large, but look like Martins because they fly so fast."

No doubt Charlie Babbie would prefer to have become a confederate bank, but his meagerless TD is still a blackbird with plenty of song and grace.



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Reinventing Alanis Morissette

BY BRIAN D. JOHNSON

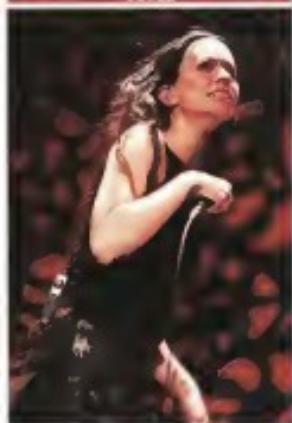
COTERIE

Imagine. You are 23 years old and you have made the biggest selling album ever recorded by a female singer. You have won four Grammys and two Junos. You have toured the world, and everywhere you go, from Milwaukee to Manila, you can hear echoes of your own voice rising from car radios. You are a legend. Now imagine, an Ottawa girl who learned to love her sullen Los Angeles, and who became, as you put it, "Mad Thing." Now everyone wants a piece of you but you desperately want to get away. And pretend. Who you gonna call? Mother Teresa?

Well, if you're Alanis Morissette, that's exactly what you do. "The Canadian popstar had been organizing a visit to Mother Teresa's hospital in India. But she still wobbles when prompted her to do it." *Caterer* on the night of Sept. 4, 1997, "Rocked out of the blues," she told *Marlène* in a recent interview. "I wanted to talk to her if she was open to chatting. I talked to a couple of her nuns, and upon getting information from them, they said, 'Would you like to speak to her now?'" Morissette remembers weighing the decision in her mind. "In that moment—taking into account how I felt when a lot of people wanted to speak to me—I just said, 'We think we're gonna really need it.' Then the next morning I woke up and she died."

Did Morissette regret not telling to Mother Teresa? "Not really," she says. "I feel like I woke up to her."

By now, anyone who has heard Morissette's recent hit single *Thank U* ("Monya India, thank you for providing") knows that she, like the Beatles, made the pilgrimage to the East and came back transformed. Spending six weeks in India in 1997 with her mother, two aunts and two girlfriends—the goddess trip, she calls it—the singer briefly volunteered at the Bhagwan Kriya Missionaries of Charity hospital. She also hiked in the H-



imalaya. She later travelled to Cuba with a group that included fellow superstar Lourdes (aka Madonna). There, she fell in love with a friend of his American actor Denis Milani (*The Thin Red Line*). And during her long disengaging act, she also completed in three months' time, the filming of her first movie role, in a comedy called *Demon*, starring Matt Damon and Ben Affleck in their *Alpha Plan* debut.

Of course, *Thank You* (which rules the world of female pop, Morissette, now 34, appears the most cagey to reveal herself): "Ramina Twins in the Vixen, Celene Dion is the Voice. But Janis is the Free Spirit, a wonderland who has broken out of her packaging and seems willing to put her career at risk for

the sake of self-expression. All three singers were on hand for last week's *Grammy Awards*. Although Morissette's new album, *S Jagged Little Pill*, came out too late in 1998 to be eligible, she won two Grammys for *Changeling*, her song from the *City of Angels* film sound track—best female rock performance and best rock song. As she sang *Thank You* on the show, she proved to be a class act in a night that unfolded like a *Telluride* costume ball (page 20). But Morissette's own fans, who cut their teeth on the dirty outtake of *His Delight Zone*, might have been asking, "Where's the rock?" All I could do, they said, then, was to sit in a sequence of gossamer acting, all growing up in drifts of a fail or cloying.

With her new album and a tour now returning to the fray with more dazzling catchphrases. When she visited Toronto last month to announce a Canadian tour—an 11-city blitz beginning on May 2 in Vancouver—she actually upgraded the word *rock* to *jagged*, implying she was just trying to prove her soft-sell side. In fact, since its release last November, *S Jagged Little Pill* (Reprise), *Jagged* has sold about three million copies in the United States and \$60,000 in Canada. Coming after 1995's *Jagged Little Pill*, which eventually sold 26 million copies worldwide, the singer's numbers may seem disappointing but no source ever discounted her off-the-charts potential.

The evolution was evident in the subtitle for her breakout album. The first showed her as a rock chick in the desert, wading through *You Oughta Know* in black leather pants, baring her fourth valve for *Head over Feet*, she posed without makeup, grinning at the camera, in a dramatically infiltrating close-up. Then for *Thank U* she walked the streets of downtown Los Angeles in a grandmo/coolie pose of seductress radiating her braids coyly veiled by the wispy hair and her crack whited-out by a smile blur. "I was in my shower when I thought of the idea," she says, adding she would logically have all of it were not for censors. "When I'm naked, I feel so free and liberated and confident, across and close to God. So I thought it would

PHOTOGRAPH BY JEFF MCKEE



No sooner did Alanis become a star than she began to shed the trappings of stardom

Cover

is appropriate to be naked in my video."

Record company executives were not so shrill. "They would have loved something safe," says Marmette's Los Angeles-based manager Scott Welsh. "But she felt I need to let her see that you can say what you are." She's fearless. Here's a star who's not afraid to be shown without perfect hair or makeup. And she's not afraid to fail in public.

I am the biggest hypocrite
For guitar candy for my ad internal
The sexy friend's captivated
I have abandoned my power singer me

—*One, from Inhibition, Justice*

The photo shoot is set up in a happening room of Toronto's new sports arena, the Air Canada Centre. There no trace of sand and fresh carpeting; the floor looks like a news conference announcing the Canadian team's victory in a long-kilometre race. Underneath, a delicate brown blouse with sheer sleeves, button-down blue jeans, scalloped black cowboy boots. Her hair is no longer blonde. Her only jewelry is a ring with two dried flowers in a half-circle, a gift from a girlfriend in Vancouver.

Posing for a photographer, Marmette meets his eye with the plain, open gaze of an innocent girl. But that is a wary look, too. A year later Marmette says there has still been no awakening of sexual desire since her year. When asked to lower her head and look at the camera, she hesitates.

"I don't want to look like a rock star," she says firmly.

"Don't worry," says the photographer. "You look like a fashion model."

"That's even worse," she laughs, turning away.

Later in a wide-ranging interview, Marmette talks candidly about her life and art—about losing her virginity to smoking with taste. She talks about channeling her anger going beyond therapy and finding serenity in self-expression. Her voice, all her images, often verge on psycho-babble, but they seem honest and uncontrived, the musings of a young woman satisfied with her newfound maturity.

Fame took some getting used to. "It felt there was a distance between who I was and the environment I found myself in," says Marmette. "I was motivated by my own expression, but a lot of people were motivated by fame and status and wanting awards. I questioned why someone would want my autograph, and why someone would feel I had to stand near me or touch my hair and

telling their cousins they spent time with me. And I'm not knowing when to say no and when to say yes—and perhaps even on the side of saying no." On the other hand, she adds, "there was an amazing way to see who I was. I was dealing with pretty much right away. I can immediately tell a lot about someone's character by the way they feel about faces."

Then there are the perks. Getting to hang out with other famous people. Going to Cuba with Leonarda DiCaprio. "It was a cultural exchange with 20 people put together by an investment banking company in New York," Marmette explains. "We went to different hospitals and art galleries and restaurants and dance clubs and really just absorbed it. Because the Cuban culture wants *Anjouan* to see them as more than just an exhibition, and they like meeting different artists down there, right? It's kind of like operating the word." The trip was an all-inclusive package. "One minute I'd be as an AIDS patient speaking to a patient and one reading with them, and later that night I would be dancing my head off at a cocaine club. It was everything. It was beautiful and unique."

And romantic. After meeting David Mihm in Cuba (he's the embittered *Psi*, Duffin That Red Line) and a regular on TV's *Velvet*, a year later Marmette says they're still in love. So here's the question: Has she been to bed? "She has to define what we feel 'in love' means," she replies. "I love. I might say I have full education and heart palpitations and chariot runaround brain. But I've only been in a really healthy relationship. And that's this one."

I love you when you dinner when you
friendly in France
so pure such as expression

—*So Pure, from Inhibition, Justice*

Philadelphia, the eve of Valentine's Day. Some 13,000 fans packed into a hockey arena except when Alanis steps on stage. She is clad in black, with a spangled skirt wrapped around boho pants and a tattered top. Picking a microphone up off the floor, she launches into *Blink* from the new album, a rock dirge about Western tourists seeking instant satisfaction the textbook "makes it all grow." The theme of Third World cockiness continues to the simple stage set, which is blanked by half-boozers, and backed by ornate Moroccan artwork.

But for a rock spectacle, it is as soft as pro-

The singer in concert in Philadelphia last month; as an aspiring protest singer sometime in 1989 (below); her latest lyrics are open letters to ex-lovers, family members and friends—in effect, pop music's answer to e-mail



duction. And Alanis wins over the audience without the usual rock 'n' roll stagecraft. She does not dance so much as strum back and forth to the beat. As she extrapolates the stage, focusing her musicians with nervous smile, she never tries to push a response from the corners of the crowd. Happily lost in her own world, she lets people watch the open movie house. Nor does she interact much with her musicians—she dances, too, guitar, bassist and keyboard player. Her voice carries the show. It is a powerful aeronautic voice, one that is equal to tape up in the jet stream, commanding in and out of falsetto. As she sings, she does something weird with her hands, holding the microphone with her right hand, the left hand loops and stretches a granite cube, fingers selecting chromatic keys cut out of the air.

Between songs, skipping each time to rip from a water bottle, she keeps by the drummer, who is coolly disengaged. At one point, she glances up at the screen's digital clock and announces, "It's 10:14 and it is well... talk about being in the moment."

The audience responds best to the hits. And with the opening bars of *Thank U*, it is truly bizarre to hear clowns of recognition give lies like "how bad going off of these antibiotics" and "how bout them transparent dangling carrots." *One Head in My Pocket*



starts out unphased, to the sound of hand drums and harmonica, while a video shows Alanis jogging up the stairs. Then, at 10:15, she lets loose. With a sunburst-reading video playing behind her, Alanis jangles and spins in circles, faster and faster like a skidster to make herself dizzy, until he heads in逆clockwise around her head. A whirling dervish, on the song ends, she holds her arms in prayer.

None of this seems choreographed. Or, at least, the illusion of control is convincing. And none of the rage and pain underlying Marmette's lyrics comes across in performance. From the *Set the Pillar* thrum of the hand to the Indian decoupage, the spirit is born again, patient and free. It is where music—while the majority of Philadelphia's population is African American—there are few black faces in the audience—and it's not terribly shiny. Whenever things threaten to get too cheered, however, Alanis picks up the harmonica. She is so virile, but cooler than ever, and bleeds the living highlights out of it, she drives the crowd to frenzy with her sheer exuberance.

Later when asked about her fearlessness for the harmonica, Marmette says, "It's not sweet little instruments, ya know? It's coming from the mouth. I love wind instruments." Alanis loves a lot of harmonicas as a child her parents were heavily into Bob Dylan.

Her talent first emerged when she was a toddler. In 1987, her parents bought a three-year-old recording of a METO tape in Tahiti, Germany. While on vacation in France, Alanis took the three-year-old *Alanis* to the movie *Grease*. She quickly renamed all the songs, and using a tape deck, she took an entire house and wrote out *Olivia Newton-John* in *Grease's* John Travolta. By the age of 9, Alanis had started writing her own songs and getting them on tape, presented to teachers with titles like *Pete Sheldy* and *Find the Right Way*. She moved to Ontario to be a cousin of a couple of family friends who were musicians, and they were impressed enough to help her start a band.

—Uc, from *Inhibition, Justice*

Alanis Nathalie Marmette—and her twin brother, Wade—were born in Ottawa on June 1, 1974. In Alan and Graeme Monteith, who are both teachers, Alan is French Canadian. George was born in Edinburgh, moving to Canada with her family during the 1960s. George's singing at the age of 90 George was just 12 when she and Alan met in a schoolyard and became sweethearts. Alan had predicted he would marry her, which he did, nine years later in 1987. The Monteiths have three children—the older brother, Chad, was born two years before the twins. But the bond between Alanis and Wade seems strongest. As a child prodigy, she often performed with her twin brother, who became a singer-songwriter but is now a yoga instructor in Vancouver. "We've influenced each other a lot," says Marmette. "Not consciously, but we've been going through a lot of the same changes at the same time."

When she was 14, Alanis whisked her off to Paris to shoot her first promotional video, *One Head in My Pocket*. That was *One Head*, a local children's show that was packed with the US Nickelodeon cable channel. She used her earnings to manufacture 1,200 copies of the single. *Psi* Stay With Me, and it stayed No. 1 in North America. Although it did not take off, it caught the ear of Ottawa entrepreneur Steve Kivari, a former figure-skating champion who became Marmette's manager and agent. At 18, she belted out *Coward* for an Elizabeth Mailey skating tour, then soon became a fixture at hockey games and political rallies—the Anthem Girl. When she was 14, Kivari whisked her off to Paris to shoot her first promotional video,

which showed her holding through a logistic in a bathing suit. At 17, she released her debut album, *Adolesce*, which sold 100,000 copies and won the Jaso for most promising female vocalist in 1992.

It was not easy being a lone parent. Every morning, her school played her version of O Canada over the PA system, giving the singer her first taste of an all-Aboriginal batch. Also, she had a double life. "There was that split," she says. "I split between my high school and the part of me that would go to parties and spend time with friends her age...and the part of me that was in the elementary school." She had a lot of fun, though, as the smaller kids loved her so much. It required of her to be very much an adult, while ensuring she still very much a child. But Marianne's parents did not push her. The pressure to perform perfectly was gone. Perfectionism was something I battled for many years."

Growing up as a devout Catholic, however, was another source of stress. Marianne says she did not lose her faith until she was almost 19. "Straight up Catholic," she says. "I was taught that if you fit it straight, then you're clean and will love you and you are going to be this prize. So while I was very usually active from the time I was 14 years old, I remained a virgin, which was basically ridiculous as retrospect. But I was associated with that whole you-have-to-stay-pure-until-you-leave-the-church thing." Eventually, she adds, "I had sex and saw how beautiful and strong and good it was." "Who was her lucky boyfriend?" Marianne will not say. "But we don't need to talk about him, poor guy," she laughs. "He's one of the greatest loves of my life, and it's his day."

Years later, this time, however, she was involved in one of her first serious romantic relationships with American TV actor David Coulter, who starred in *Flatliners*, based on *America's Funniest People*—and 12 years after that she was among the thousands of Web sites devoted to Marlene. Coulter's name often comes up in files speculate about the identity of the man who shot her for an older woman in *The Goodbye Room*. But Marlene, who seems to be building a career on writing clippings with ex-boyfriends is not about to name names.

At 19 Alison reached an impasse. Her songs and albums *New* and *The Tide* had performed weakly and her career was stalled. Moon, while she had been accepted by audiences at Toronto and Ottawa, had then MCA (Music Canada) executive John Alexander contacted her with Sean Welch, a Los Angeles manager who had just turned Paulina Rubio from a children's leader into a pop star. Welch persuaded Moon to leave home, live in Toronto and write songs. "We got her in a small apartment with the smallest studio she could live in," he recalls. All of a sudden, she started to get



a creative situation where other people were dictating the terms. This was her opportunity and she took it."

And it benefited greatly from the fact that Alanis didn't have a record deal at that point. We were doing it for free." Maverick Records, the label owned by Madonna, signed her six, and the album, powered by the smash rage of "I'm Gonna Kneel," took off like a rocket.

*Is she permitted like me
Would she go down an paw in a theatre?*

-Yin Onelia Kwee

"We were intelligent, curious, energetic," recalls Bullard. "We lit it off—had a cup of tea and

But on a flight home for Christmas, while rushing to finish the last of her Christmas cards, Marianne was overcome by an anxiety attack. It was followed by racing thoughts and bouts of uncontrollable shuddering. The breakdowns triggered a motherlode of repressed emotions that became the active ingredients of *Jagged Edge*. When she went back to work with Bellard in Los Angeles, the actress just gossiped and "Writing the album is

Like Joni Mitchell, Morissette is a vocal explorer with an ethereal instrument and original inflection



Manns, with twin brother Wade, in 1983, winning Jaso award for most promising female vocalist in 1982 (right). "The pressure to perform perfectly was nice."

over a lot. We don't really talk very often."

Marsette's success, meanwhile, drew others. Courtney Love disdained her and Joni Mitchell was quick to speak comparisons between herself and Marsette. "This is musical exercise and not just a pop songwriter," she retorted. "Marsette writes words, someone else sets them to music, and then she kind of steals into the part." Marsette was unfazed by the criticism. "Everyone's entitled to their opinion, but I'm not gonna change. So I don't really feel the need to respond." I started listening to Joni and Award after Award when everyone and your'e so obviously influenced by her I said, "Actually I don't even have one of her records." So then everyone was uninviting me with Joni Award records!"

The joint composition is not completely far-fetched. Little Mitchell, Monastere is a vocal composer with an ethereal instrument and singular sense of reflection. And Bataille, his son's writing partner, says she has a strong hand in the music. "I when suggest a strong sonic landscape," he says, "she's like a sage, leading the ultimate melodic expression or what she has to say. Once she starts wrapping her words around it, she has to person

Mornette has developed a unique word attack, the way she filters out many fake words—"an a bushy bird" and "the whale" come to mind.

entirely and I talk to my band members and I get on my bus and travel to the next city."

You only have to look at Mornstein's face to see that she is not entirely free from her hangovers, the patchy makeup every night down to the quick—a habit she attributes to the pressure of constantly directing her two new videos. "Touring, however, has become much easier," she laughs. "I'm laughing all the time." That was just too much going on, so much stress. I was just不堪重负.

A lucrative reality deal on *Jagged Little Pill* has made her a wealthy woman. And since visiting India, Morissette has also become a virtual spokesperson—*one billion* of every ticket sold for her Canadian tour goes to a local cause, such as Toronto's Covenant House, an agency for street kids. But the singer, who drives a jeep, says she has trouble finding ways to spend her money. "My business manager and all her clients have one thing that they spend their money on, and with me it's traveling. Whether it's long-term or with my family. I spend a pretty large amount of money flying people all over the world."

Meanwhile, new horizons keep opening up. "I'd love to write a screenplay," she says. "I'd love to be in films, behind and in front of the cameras. I love photography and poetry." Anything else? "I'm writing a book right now," she reveals. "It's a collage book. One chapter is a fictional story, the next chapter is diary entries, the next is letters, the next is photos, the next chapter is confessions and revelations and questions I may have to figure out." —C.J.

The career ambitions of Anna Wolkensche pose questions. As she agrees her emotional life also a cottage industry, there is always a risk of becoming the Martha Stewart of commercial pop. She has yet to prove that inner peace can be so compelling as outer turmoil. But in the Age of the Apparatus, she seems like one of those weapons—who built an entire society on overtly misusing the word “peace”—conceived as a tactic. There is something admirable about the faith with which she has invented herself. She is a workaholic, as inventors are, a



Dion and her statues: an impossibly rich, nappy, sultry and genuinely passionate voice—and a totally sassy designer sheath for an outfit

The season of the diva

COLOR/Essay

BY JUDITH TIMSON

Calling all girls! Wondering what to be when you grow up? Then we got a hit career for you! It's called being a diva. That used to be a high end term reserved for Maria Callas and other opera megalomaniacs who transmuted culture and language with big, soaring voices and eyes to match.

But now the word diva is in everyone's lips because, in the world of pop/rock music, this is the Year of the Woman. And in the year of the woman, *Fame: The Season of the Diva*. And in the season of the diva, last week's Grammy awards show was the Night of Nights, or should we say the Eve of Eves?

That night, female pop and rock stars unleashed, taking home a record total of 27 Grammys. Madonna, Lauryn Hill, Celine, Shania, Alanis...they came, they sang, they conquered! And gave or took a few fashion misfires, like *Looked Fabulous, Felt Like No One*, what anyone says or sings about female empowerment, looking great to fill a major requirement! In fact, if you're thinking seriously about being a diva, check out most one-word cards:

Ya gotta have *sass*. Madonna's cool grinch-style kissers, Celine's totally clavicle designer sheath with that sex thingy on one side, Lauryn's ratty hat. And then there was Shania—but more on that later.

The very exciting career news about being

a pop diva or that it's open to all females, regardless of all background, race or age. You can be young and black like the shockingly talented 17-year-old American hip-hop star Lauryn Hill who walked away with a record for a woman for *Grammy*. Or you can be the 40-year-old New Jersey Madonna, particularly whose work has encouraged selling a sex-movie wrapped in plastic to covering争议 in a bikini-like bustier worn by her popular.

But best of all, in this competitive global market, you can be Canadian. In fact, without Celine Dion, Shania Twain and Alanis Morissette—a trio of mega-long-timers who made huge a total of six awards—the world at (say) division wouldn't be held so impressive. (Celine will also receive an International Achievement Award at the Junos on Sunday.) Celine, Alanis and Shania made it all for project for that. What did they tell us about the job? Obviously, you need talent—but that's especially true of Celine's, which many of you young girls don't appreciate. "I just find her really amazing," you told us in answer to our highly unsatisfactory survey—which doesn't mean you like her—but of course we happened to bump into Latent if you've read gone down with the ship is Celine belting out the syrupy *My Heart Will Go On* try her in French as on her *Diva* album in which she is so much more supple, sultry and genuinely passionate.

Then there is the astoundingly self-confi-

dent Alanis, whose quirky lyrics and snapshot of gender rage in her previous albums, flagged *Let's Get It On* and *Heaven Is a Place on Earth*, were so compelling it became the best-selling female record ever. That success brought her the creative freedom to go from rage to reconciliation on her new album (not selling so well on the charts, mind you), but nevertheless dancing in her *Thank U* video where she sings naked—what, no outfit?—in the mirror.

So what are the rewards of pop divadom? Those CD sales will buy you the most trophy of material goods fast mode rock stars have picked up. Celine has 100 pairs of shoes and a \$15,000 Florida vacation complete with limousines and a motorcyle. Broadcast and a winter 100% Shania bought a massive house ranch in upscale New York, and Alanis travelled all over the

Female pop and rock stars won a record 17 Grammys



The packaged Twain, hip-hop star Hill performing at the awards show (left); music record industry execs know the sales figures even if they can't quite recall the names

world to refresh herself creatively.

But let's not forget the ordinary touch. When Celine is so depressed she likes to clean out her closets or give her mother and sisters a facial and manicure. Shania has been seen mucking out those stables, and Alanis shaves her face with a childhood friend because she wants a rosemary.

As for the sexed-up booty (several period pieces are a bit tooled). While Alanis, 24, is single, two of our three divas—Celine, 34, and Shania—are married. Their husbands, heavily involved in their careers as either managers or producers, are sometimes cynically seen as the *Sons of Bitches* behind the scenes.

In fact, opinions about pop divas are an occupational hazard. Male record store clerks, for instance, who will ignore Bob Dylan's number of changes of late, will mutter dismissively of Alanis's progression from dance-music hopper to ringer rocker to purring Celine as something nice. But don't let the cynicism, the brutally hard work, the necessity to look at all times like the million-dollar poster to the existing part you all bring a diva. There who the hell are *One Last Thing*? Do divas have longevity? Will they last as long as Madonna, we'll have to wait and see. But take note of Lauryn Hill's exhortations to the *Sons of Bitches* up stage for another round: "Stay first." Now that's advice for the ages.



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People

Edited by
TANYA DAVIES

The Bradford take on writing

Even reading goes better with Coke. Or at least it does for best-selling author Barbara Taylor Bradford. Diet Coke keeps almost all of three glasses, are less times more likely than regular Coke firms to read while sipping their drink, according to Coca-Cola Ltd. So the soft-drink giant funded 3.5 million of the 14-page gift guide to Bradford's new novel, *A Suitable Charge*, about picks of the Coke in the United States. While Coke looks to increase sales, Bradford views the arrangement as something more than innovative and enchanting. "It is a very good fit, commercially," says the 65-year-old writer whose phenomenal commercial success has turned her into a carryover phenomenon. She'll also be in something that would help promote literacy. "Bradford was one of 12 prominent writers, including Stephen King, to donate \$1,000 each to support a literacy program in New York City where she lives."

The Yorktown, Virginia-born Bradford can afford to give gratis. Her 25 novels about resounding women successfully incorporating literary flourishes and romance copies worldwide. Together with the many novels of framework or mini-series star from the produced by Robert Bradbury, her Bradford is 35 years—Brad last should have given her to No. 12 three years running on the London Daily Mail's list of highest-earning British writers, exceeding Queen Elizabeth II. Still, Bradford maintains that substantial portions of her fortune exceeding \$1 billion are "wrong, wrong, wrong."

The plot of *A Suitable Charge* demonstrates Bradford's



Bradford: I write about strong, educated women, and I think like them.

ence with high finance and high art: appraiser Laura Valent attempts to track down and restore to their rightful owners art works lost by the Nazis, while dealing with her husband's bisexuality. As for the central male: the novel's title—the name of individuals who paid vast sums in good faith for art stolen decades earlier—Bradford has no doubts about what they should do. "I write books about strong, educated women," she says. "And I think the story...what was stolen must go back."

Shining on, and off, the screen



Courteney Cox stars in *A Suitable Charge*

What for many young actors is an end—being cast in youth-oriented, top television shows and films—for Angela Featherstone is just the milieu. "I've always wanted to be a writer, and I thought if I would be closer with some mentors, so I started acting," says the 30-year-old native of Hamilton, Ontario. In 1994, wanting to act drama and slowly started getting roles. Three years later, she

landed the pilot part as Chloe, the woman who came between Romeo and Juliet in the popular TV series *Romeo & Juliet*. Last summer, Featherstone costarred with Adam Sandler in his hit film, *The Wedding Singer*. Now, in *Cigarettes*, an ensemble comedy about friends celebrating New Year's Eve in New York City in 1981. Along with Featherstone, it features a who's-who of young talent, including Ben Affleck, Christine Ricci, and Jannine Giavola. "I had the best time," says Featherstone of the shoot. "I

met as many actors I didn't know and Courtney was great. I'm going to see her in concert soon."

Last year, Featherstone took her first step towards becoming a screenwriter when she co-wrote a TV sitcom, *Ginger*, for NBC. She will produce and star in the upcoming series about a baby Martha Stewart-like decorator. "I wanted to get in with the writers to learn how to write comedy," she says. "Actions aren't allowed in the process, so the only way we're to create and produce a show." The best of both sides of the camera.

Coming out swinging

He has endured family tragedy. Now George Chuvalo is fighting back.

BY RAE CORKELE

He is 67 years old, but beneath the short, sandy-grey hair remnants of what he was, he could pass for 31. The blonde beard and bushy eyebrows have yielded wisdom, but they have not yet yielded wisdom, and exercise. George Chuvalo, 6'1" on thick over six feet, has lost 40 lbs since last February and now, more or less fitfully, weighs in at a compact 260. Outwardly, the toughest heavyweight fighter this country has ever produced is in good shape; inwardly, Chuvalo remains tormented by the drug-related deaths, years apart, of three sons and his wife. The memories haunt him, especially at night when he is alone, but they have also infused him with a sense of mission. Like a penitent ex-preacher, and maybe a bit of both, he travels the country, exhorting high school kids, native youth, young offenders and adult groups to leave the dangers of hard drugs. Last year, he spoke to students in every province except New Brunswick, and he expects to do the same again this month. "My agenda is essentially prevention," Chuvalo says.

He sits in the kitchen of his apartment in northwest Toronto, wearing a green T-shirt and beige slacks and sipping peach juice. A small dog, a part poodle named Trippie, is gnawing his foot on the table as a photo album, its pages filled with the faces smiles of long-gone children, turns the archway into the living room, the afternoon sun shines on a dog-eared leather chaise-longue and the stereo is playing the music of 1968 jazz legend Janis Joplin. Chuvalo looks only reluctantly, as if none of it matters any more, about his 21 years as Canadian heavyweight champion or the bare-knuckle, losing battles with Joe Frazier, George Foreman and Muhammad Ali, none of whom could knock him down.

What Chuvalo really wants to talk about is his unrelenting, one-man war on substance abuse. With passion and single-mindedness, he goes from city to city, urging teenagers to reject the idea that drugs are "cool," to respect themselves, to make life and career choices and stick to them, to recognize and slain "the craziness that goes on in the world." He is driven by the horror of what he calls "my personal holocaust."

When people ask him how he got through the suffering that's not second nature, he says "I put



it like this, how I'm getting through it. When you're weaker and fully conscious, your mind kind of protects you. But once I stop, I really stop, when things slow down, the TV's off, the lights are out and I'm there with my own thoughts. I have a hard time, I have a hard time. It's like an anxiety attack." Several sharply intoned beeps punctuate the trailing. "It's the only time I feel sorry for myself. I think, 'How can you even live after that, how the hell did all that happen?'" The voice cracks and the eyes well up. "You don't want to be me after midnight."

The son of Croatian immigrants parents who worked in the shipyards houses of southwestern Forest, Chuvalo found his life unravelling about six years after he retired from the ring in 1976 (with a record of 78-17-2, including 75 knockouts). His son, Jesse, in concert pain following surgery to repair the bone he had broken in a skateboard accident, took a friend's advice at a party one night in 2001 and tried heroin to ease the dislocation. Four years later, on Feb. 18, 2005, he went to his bedroom and shot himself. He was 30.

Jesse's older brothers, high-school dropouts George Lee and Steven, were already at rock bottom in 1984, their drug addiction with drugs had progressed to heroin, and after Jesse killed himself, they began shooting even more of it. In 2007, they were convicted of robbing a drugstore and imprisoned. On Dec. 26, 2009, George Lee, 40, went out of a job, left the heroin rush for the last time. The last bad boy is finally no longer a bad boy in west-end Toronto. He was 30.

For George Chuvalo, the loss of his son and son was beyond endurance. Two days after George Lee's funeral, Chuvalo came home to find his wife, in bed, dead from an overdose of prescription drugs. The shock sent him down for the count. "They say I was in bed for a month-and-a-half after that," he says. "Then we would come round, my family, but I don't remember I must have got out of bed to go to the bathroom, but I don't remember."

And then there was Steven, at the time of his three surviving children. (Anissa, now 31, has a degree in classical studies from the University of Guelph, and Mitchell, 30, is a high-school teacher and football and wrestling coach in Toronto.) In 1993, the CBC's *All Estate* did a documentary on the Chuvalo family's anguish. Chuvalo plays a video of the program as part of his presentation whenever he goes. In it, Steven speaks of his life as a heroin addict, of his sense of worthlessness, of how his father repeatedly rescued him from lobophanes and, on one occasion, from a snowbank. "Steve's articulate, Steve's a handsome lad, nice little lad, folks nice, sweet," says Chuvalo. "When he talks, or talks about his heroin, and you hear him as he's talking, it's hard not to believe him. Then it ends. It talk a bit but the show's over, you know, the video part."

And so is the short, tortured life of Steven Chuvalo. On Aug. 17, 1996, less than two weeks after he finished serving a sentence for yet another drugstore robbery, Chuvalo's third drug-addicted son died in his sister Vanessa's Toronto



apartment of a heroin overdose. She found him there when she came home. He was 25.

When he brings his audience up to date by telling them of Steven's death, Chuvalo says, "There's an awful gap. They didn't expect that. They expected to talk about my two sons who were gone, my wife, but they didn't expect another son, a live, living son on the video. And when they see somebody like that, I talk about how young people today have to be a lot stronger to survive. Talk about lots of things. Talk about how they have to have their radar working and make sure their antennas is working so they can tune in to what's going on."

Perhaps because Steven's death was the most recent or because there was something special in their relationship, Chuvalo lingers with his reflection. "He quit high school. I let him, I thought he was going to go back but he didn't. You know when he went back? When he was just in the completed high school inside. They let him take courses from Queen's University while he was in Collingwood Bay Penitentiary. He loved Russian literature,陀思妥耶夫斯基, Tolstoy, Solzhenitsyn. He loved all those guys. He had a passion for that stuff. He should have gone to university on the outside, studied Russian literature, psychology, whatever and do something with his life. He had the brains. He was a smart lad."

In the two-hour interview, Chuvalo's emotions are all over the map. Now he turns his anger on the entertainment industry for the way they promote drug use and they don't tell you the real story." He singles out Quentin Tarantino's *Pulp Fiction* in which John Travolta plays a hoodlum based on himself. "Tall, dark, well-built, handsome, doing drugs—and

PROFILE

still looking tall, dark, handsome and well-built," Chavula says. "What's the message? Hey, you can do drugs and still look like John Travolta; you can do drugs and carry on a normal life." That's sending out the message that you can do drugs and get away with it and nothing could be for the better.

What is at work here, he says, is the seduction of teenagers by the drug-related fruits of rock stars and actors like Janice Dickinson, Jim Belushi, John Goodman and others. "In the minds of some kids were, like, cool. My mom bought one that whole imagery of cool. I talk about that and I talk about it pretty explicitly, graphic and I can't because you can't bullet hole, you can't live but I'm not going to do it. In the beginning, my sons didn't know they'd get so excited at the sight of heroin they'd be crawling their pants, really does. They didn't know they'd start shaking, sweating, they didn't know that part of it."

The personal aftermath of the stage-trailers goes beyond illicit drugs. Says Chavula: "You have to wonder about a society like ours that just doesn't understand why young people are seduced by drugs while it's not only tolerates smoking and drinking but encourages both by its example."

The winter sun has moved enough to put late afternoon shadows in the living room and Tippy the dog is off searching for something else to chew on. It's nearly a month after Christmas "which is always tough," Chavula says. "You tend to get overwhelmed by things. Even if horrific things haven't happened, you get melancholy, kind of mopey." But he got through it, he says, with the help of his second wife, Joanne, whom he married on July 25, 1985. Now 42, she is a registered nurse who brought two children to the marriage, Kelly, 9, and Jessie, 16. Baby, an 18-month-old, is standing by the stove eating pasta. In the aftermath of his ex-wedding family, Chavula has at last found comfort.

On Christmas Eve, he went to Barrie, an hour north of Toronto, to visit his grandchildren, Jessie, 12, and Rachel, 10. They are Steven's children and they live with his widow. "I go out when I see them," Chavula says. "Close them so much." Last year Rachel was an award from her school for having the highest marks in Grade 10 science. "When you are ten, you feel good and happy," says Chavula. "All those little things make you feel good." Jessie does such a believable imitation of U.S. President Bill Clinton that Chavula videotaped it.

Ironically, the conversation returns to boxing. While his encounters with the likes of Foreman and Ali made him a headliner, Chavula says his most unforgettable bout was on Sept. 25, 1968, at New York City's Madison Square Garden against Manuel Ruso, the six-foot, 190-pound Mexican heavyweight champion. "I knocked him out in the 18th round. I think he was ranked number 4 in the world. I knocked out all the number 4s. I had trouble with the score, though."

He worries in the subject, recalling that he had always wanted to be a fighter and was packing out in a gym by the age of 10. "I think of boxing as being the truest form of sport. It's more natural to fight than play football. It's more natural to fight than box or golf. A common would understand boxing, he wouldn't understand golf. Boxing is the respect for power. No other sport more clearly demonstrates one man's superiority over another quite like boxing. When a guy goes down for the count it's every body knows why was the fight."

The proums of the big paydays (he got \$65,000 for his May 1, 1972, fight against Ali) are long gone. Now, Chavula depends on the love



In 1984: (clockwise from top left) Steven, Mitchell, Jessie, George Lee and Lyne

from music speaking engagements or the sponsorship of supporters such as the United Food and Commercial Workers Union—which promoted last year's tour—and Expedite Plus, a Toronto-area courier company. He made a half-dozen appearances in January. "The pay's not bad, it's OK, I stay alive," he says. "Weigh-in, we get by. Money's less of a factor in my life right now. It doesn't seem so important. I don't worry about becoming fatigued." He still goes to the gym, where his routine includes a series of bench presses or 400 sit-ups. "The physical thing gives me a little balance—I don't gain weight, I go busters."

Cooking helps as well, and he racks off a list of specialties—"I can make stuffed peppers, I can make cabbage rolls, all kinds of stews and soups, all kinds of fish, stews fish, I've been stews fish Jambalaya-style. This foods, Greek foods, a little bit of everything. I'm trying to be less messy about the way I cook, I cook people out."

At 50, he often recalls his past, the unanswerable question of whether he could have done anything to save his dead sons. But in the welcome light of day, he is cheered by the love of his surviving children, his grandchildren and his new family. "When I talk to young people about drugs or staying off drugs," Chavula says, "I always talk about love in your life and sometimes people say, 'Oh yeah, love, you're not going to have me with that stuff are you?' But what else is there in life? What else are we here for if we can't have people? I have been with Joanne, I have walking up to laughter in the house." A relatively new and refreshing way to greet the day. After 40 years of punishment in and out of the ring, George Chavula is still as fit as ever. □

Health MONITOR

Help for the quitters

Zyban Meyer started smoking in her early teens and, over the next four decades, exhibited a 25-cigarettes-a-day habit. Books of brochures, a "Tobacco 101" booklet, a cough laid a pause on a encounter with a former smoking buddy who says, "You're going to quit," convinced Meyer she should quit. But she couldn't. "I tried acupressure and laser therapy, nicotine chewing gum and the nasal spray," says Meyer, 56, a retired bank clerk who lives in Mississauga, Ont. "But the longest I could stay off cigarettes was a week." Then she heard about Zyban, a drug that began the as an antidepressant and turned out to be remarkably effective in helping people to quit.

After manufacturer Glaxo Wellcome won Canadian regulatory clearance for the drug in August, Meyer was straight to her doctor for a prescription. "It was like a miracle," says Meyer, who stopped using Zyban in December. "I felt no craving at all for nicotine, and I haven't smoked for five months. I feel great."

Word of mouth like that is aiding Zyban's popularity. In the drug's first few months in Canada, physicians wrote 157,000 prescriptions for the purple pills, giving Zyban about 40 per cent of the market for smoking cessation aids. "It's hot stuff," says Dr. Stephen Borrelli, a psychiatrist who works with smokers at Toronto's Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. "Lots of patients are asking for Zyban—the magic pill of the moment." For each pill of the medicine, Addiction experts like Zyban believe it helps even addicts from their habit without offering a substitute supply of nicotine like the popular transdermal patch—which injects nicotine through a small wafer on the skin—or nicotine chewing gum.

Though scientists are not exactly sure how Zyban works, the drug apparently acts as two of the brain's chemical messengers—dopamine and norepinephrine—that are involved in nicotine addiction. As a result, says Dr. Andrew Pipe, director of the smoking cessation program at the University of Ottawa's Heart Institute, smokers who are trying to quit experience pleasurable feelings akin to those induced by nicotine, while Zyban

simultaneously reduces the craving that usually accompanies nicotine withdrawal. Zyban has another advantage at \$14.50 a day, pricing the patch costs about \$100 to make the patch—or a moderate cigarette holder.

With more than six million Canadians—37 per cent of the adult population—still smoking, and two thirds of them taking patches, there is plenty of room for better anti-smoking aids. Take all drugs, Zyban has side effects—they can include a dry mouth and difficulty sleeping. Doctors who prescribe Zyban report that for a small group of patients like Meyer, this



Lighting out for some smokers, quitting was easy

can be almost a breeze. For others, it remains a tough slog—even with Zyban. Experts know that relapse is a routine part of kicking nicotine, regardless of the method used. "It's a ticky-tack," says Pipe, "for people to try quitting two or three times before they succeed." The reason, says Ray Baker, a Vancouver physician who treats heroin, cocaine and nicotine addicts and alcoholics, is that "nicotine is the toughest addiction of all to beat." Zyban, along with its competitors, smokers who are trying to quit experience pleasure feelings akin to those induced by nicotine, while Zyban

Bacteria and the heart

Over the past decade, growing evidence has pointed to bacterial infection as a possible cause of heart disease. Now, two Toronto-based researchers believe they have discovered how *Chlamydia pneumoniae* bacteria—which can be transmitted sexually or by inhalation—can invade an animal's heart muscle with its heart. After reviewing the medical records of Dr. Joseph Petrone and Dr. Kurt Buchbinder, both cardiologists at Princess Margaret Hospital, concluded that the key is a protein on the surface of the bacteria that closely resembles proteins in the heart. Writing in the journal *Science*, they said the similarity can trigger an immune system into attacking and damaging not only the bacteria but the heart and blood vessels as well. Penninger said that if the same process occurs in humans, the discovery could lead to screening methods for detecting and treating future heart disease victims.

Rethinking a cancer

Clinical studies have shown that treating cervical cancer with both radiation and chemotherapy can dramatically improve survival rates, the U.S. National Cancer Institute announced. After reviewing studies involving nearly 2,000 patients in the United States, the agency issued an unusual advisory recommending that doctors begin using the dual treatment for cervical cancer that has spread within the pelvis. Until now, doctors have treated such cases with radiation alone, experts said the five-year survival rate with that treatment was about 50 per cent. The new studies showed combined therapy further reduced the number of deaths by up to 50 per cent. "There are very significant reductions," said Dr. Collins Thomas, a radiation oncologist at Toronto's Sunnybrook hospital, who carried out early studies of dual therapy and helped direct three of the recent trials.

Time between babies

For mothers who wait from 18 to 23 months before becoming pregnant again stand the best chance of having healthy babies, according to a study that tracked more than 170,000 babies born to Mormon women in Utah between 1989 and 1996. Researchers from the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention said that babies born about 2½ years after their mother's previous child were less likely to be preterm or smaller for birth weight—factors that can adversely affect infant health. Writing in the *New England Journal of Medicine*, the researchers added that allowing more than five years to elapse between pregnancies could be risky for infants as well.

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Independence day

Launching a first in The Gambia

In the land of Kunta Kinte, the enslaved hero of Alex Haley's epic novel *Roots*, And for four decades of years, the proud people who inhabited the sweeping hills and narrow valleys that now make up The Gambia were brutalized and banished by ruthless European slave traders. But long after the unprivileged West African nation gained its independence from Britain in 1965, many of its best and brightest were forced into exile by the absence of a homegrown university. Gambian students travelled to universities overseas or in neighbouring countries, and many never returned. But last month, a milestone in the young country's history changed all that. Amid wild applause, 62 honours students in the capital, Banjul, marched in the podium and received their degrees in the first university graduation ceremony ever held on Gambian soil. The proceedings were broadcast live throughout the tiny country of 1.3 million, and the large audience included President Yahya Jammeh and a host of other dignitaries. "They were so proud of those students," says Michael Larsen, the director of Saint Mary's University in Halifax, and a guest at the event. "It was a really powerful moment."

There was pride, too, in the hearts of Saint Mary's staff who helped make it possible. The Nova Scotia university has operated the branch campus from which the students graduated last month since 1985. Classes are taught in the spartan facilities available at a handful of trade schools—the country's only postsecondary institutions. Although Canadian colleges and universities today are involved in a wide range of student exchanges and other international programs, the Saint Mary's venture is unique for the respect it has won on an entire island. Over the next five years, the branch campus will evolve into the University of The Gambia. "We really are creating a university from scratch," says John Young, a professor emeritus of chemistry at Saint Mary's who has done two teaching stints in the country.

A shortage of scientific equipment limits the program to largely self-taught courses in such fields as English, economics and math. But the resourcefulness of some professors has allowed the university to offer a small number of science courses. For \$80,000, Young cobbled together cast-off equipment from corporate donors and garage sales to create an innovative chemistry lab. The computer



Larsen (right) with graduate Faridata Jallow, a proud

Gambian government. Applicants must meet the same admission requirements as Saint Mary's students in Canada. Sixty per cent of the students are on full government scholarships. Tuition costs \$8,000 a year for five credits, approximately a third of what foreign students pay in Canada.

Over the course of a school year, about 25 Saint Mary's grads participate in a teach intensive, semester credit courses. Faculty members are forced up to help out, despite less than ideal conditions. Classes are large, supplies scarce, and power is intermittently blocked out to save resources. From April to June, temperatures soar above 37°C, and air conditioning is rare.

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labatory, which enables students to carry out a wider range of experiments, is now being introduced in a number of Nova Scotia high schools. Young, 40, says the major hardship that professors face in The Gambia is to overcome by the enormous dedication of the students. "They're the best I've ever had," he says. "They left it was a chance for them to get out of poverty and they just worked and worked."

Suleyman Bah, a 27-year-old official with The Gambian Ports Authority, learned the Saint Mary's project might be its only shot at a degree, and he now no longer wants it. He attended classes in the morning and worked at the port in authority in the afternoon. After a small nap and a two-hour break he would hit the books, studying from 9 p.m. to 5 a.m. "Sometimes I was very exhausted, so I just decided to sleep," he recalls. "Sleep, walk, read, sleep, wake, read—that was how my life went. It was really tough for me."

Bah, who graduated magna cum laude with a math degree last month, says the efforts of Saint Mary's University and the Nova Scotia Garnet Association, the Halifax-based development organization that pioneered the project, have changed his life. Started in 1989 by Burns Desnoes, a former Halifax high school teacher and a Saint Mary's alumnus, the association has spearheaded more than 20 educational projects involving Gambians and Canadians. Desnoes, now 60, says he thought of the branch campus' potential after being repeatedly asked by young people in The Gambia how they could attend university in Canada. With the prohibitive cost of overseas studies for Gambians, Desnoes figured it would be cheaper to offer a university program locally and approached Saint Mary's with the idea. He is a visionary really," says Bah. "He's done a lot for our country."

The program comes at a time when Canadian colleges and universities are struggling to hold on to their reputations abroad. In some cases, the motivation is partly mercenary. Last year, for instance, the Richard Bove School of Business at the University of Western Ontario in London opened a campus in the lucrative Hong Kong market in part as a plan to be the "premier global supplier of business education."

Saint Mary's branch campus in The Gambia was not designed as a money-maker. Still, there are profits. The project helped the university land a \$150-million grant from the Canadian International Development Agency to assist in establishing the University of The Gambia. And for sensitive academics, says Larsen, anything that puts the college's name on it is a plus. "There's a tendency in North America to bash universities," he says. "People take them for granted." In The Gambia, that is a lesson they have yet to learn.

JOHN SCHOFIELD

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Literary autopsies

Minette Walters spares few murderous details

BY RABBY CAMP

The richness of the music like many of her more affluent neighbours in the rolling hills of rural Dorset, does not always fit the elaborate social ritual that surrounds the band, that most quintessential pursuit of the English squarriously. But unlike most, she is so fond of its underlying purpose: "No one," she loudly asserts, "would have a problem with people having about the countryside with their hymns and their household if the object of the whole exercise were not the murder of some poor bloody fox." Alarmed by the racing heat in her own van, she sharply adds: "Sorry," she says after a split of white wine, "but you all feel very, very strongly about killing foxes, don't you?"

A surprising admission perhaps, especially for considerers of any of the six monographies that have earned Minette Walters the reputation she now enjoys. At 58, she is one of Britain's bestselling crime writers, the author of a long and distinguished list of titles—no mean achievement in the era of the classic British "whodunit." Unlike the works of some of her celebrated predecessors, however, Walters' novels are not police affairs, played out over law and order, or even in the drawing room. Each is a grisly portrait of murder, at-

ing with dark sexual undercurrents. What is more, the drab is competing, soaring despotism of the swarthy humans are capable of inflicting upon each other. Her 1992 debut novel, *The Fox House*, begins with a Labrador rolling in the decomposing bowels of an eyeless, blubbered corpse. Her most recent book, *The Disaster*, published last fall, begins with a drowning, wised woman whose dying thoughts dwell with "resentment upon the deliberate breaking of her fingers ... and the brutality of her rage."

If these catastrophes are anything, it is as accidental. An expert angel, is how HF lowliner writer Calista Bratt, creator of the satirical *Marie*, describes Wilfrid. Enough readers have been hooked that her books are global best sellers in more than 30 languages. She has won the highest accolades the crime writing world can bestow, including a John Creasey award in Britain and an Edgar Allan Poe in the United States. Her latest novels have all been lined for television by the BBC. Success has been with her. Eight years ago, Wilfrid was a housewife and mother of two supplementing the family income by penning short stories and romances. Today, she is described as the literary descendant of Agatha Christie and Dorothy L. Sayers, the peer of contemporaries P.D. James and Ruth Rendell.

marked by nearly everything has been paved'. Walberswick contains with well-drained calcareous grass. She is fond of woman containers like to call petite, with a cap of loose blood cells in place of the neck, shoulder-length hair in the wave when the first bloom time presentation. She sits surrounded by the natural elegance of her environment and the extension of the natureland and her husband, because ex-convict Alice Waller, purchased two months ago. It is a collection of 19th-century grey stone buildings, including cottages, stables, even a church, scattered over 50 hectares of Dorset coastline 30 km northeast of Dorchester. Before Thomas Hardy country, says Waller, bananas with sulphurized delicious.

"It is also Agatha Christie country, probably the least of places where one might expect to bump into Hercule Poirot or Miss Marple. While England, too, seems may of her novels in rural England, the region bleeds ends little. "In a typical Christie classic tends to become infernal as everyone moves on into the drawing room for tea," she argues. "In my books I really do not what the readers can have any doubt that I regard death—violent death—as something absolutely vital and shocking."

Walter's readers, as a result, are spared few details of the havoc wrought upon the couples shown throughout her books. She does not deny that the graphic precision found in her prose can be intimidating. "I often accused myself of giving people the wrong sort of ideas," she cautions. "But I always hope that it would not exactly dissuade them, but that it would encourage them to do what I was really doing, which was showing people the utter futility of it." By "it," she means abortion, a subject that fascinates her. "What interests me are the extremes. . . . In why there is this incredible minority of people who see the killing of another as a solution to a problem rather than as one of the rest of us, the development of an entirely different set of new problems. There is a puzzle, another up-side to it. And that, to a novelist, is what it's worth about."

as to make contact, it was late and when about nine, Walters began her career after studying French and German literature at Durham University, writing pieces of a different sort. "It was all terribly surreal, a lot of crap basically, totally ungraspable." To support her writing, she drilled iron odd jobs as a barmaid and waitress, eventually ending up at the London offices of Diana's *Weekly Library*, where she edited the hospital romances section. "Had to find eight needles to a gnat," she recalls. "Each had to be 30-300 words long, short chapters and parishes. It was notoriously difficult." So trying, in fact, that Walters, on a date from a colleague, started to write the romances herself. "I got so good at it that I soon began to earn more money from my writing than I did loaning my job as an editor. So I quit and started a freelance career."



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BOOKS

at the feet of Wilkens's sons. "I stopped writing completely for almost eight years," she says. When the boys went off to boarding school, however, she decided to interrupt a lifelong silence. "I always wanted to write a new novel," she explains. "I'm still not sure why, except that I am endlessly fascinated by dead bodies. It may be because my father died when I was 9. But it's also got something to do with the fact that I think one of the great injustices [she] sees is that the victim in a murder [will never get to tell his side of the story while] the murderer can tell what happened after he's gone."

Two-and-a-half years later, *The Ice House* was published. Initial hopes were not high. T was said that Edie Bloody lucky to win \$200,000," she wryly recalls. "Well, it took three weeks to pay back the advance and that book is still earning me a handsome income." *The Ice House* won the 1992 British Crime Writers' Association John Creasey award for best first crime novel. Wilkens's second book—*The Souvenir*—won the U.S. Edgar Allan Poe award for best crime novel of 1993. The British association then awarded her third novel, *The Scalp's Bridle*, its coveted gold dagger for best crime novel of 1994. The BBC has already broadcast dramatisations of all three, and an April sell-out of Wilkens's fourth novel, *The Dark Room*.

Her books are distinguished not only by the gritty descriptions but also by her careful attention to the psychology of her characters. "Motivation is what interests me," she says. "What drives people to do the things they do?" Wilkens's characters, as a result, are usually very real. Her books are not populated by psychopaths but by ordinary folks pushed to extraordinary lengths. Wilkens often claims the usually dark and grim who committed the murder until she is halfway through the book. "I never write pure malice," she explains. "I start with an idea that I've got in my head of characters, and of whom would have reason for motives."

Antiquity abounds in Wilkens's work. Nothing is ever quite what it seems. The *Souvenir*, arguably Wilkens's best novel, features her most complex creation—Oliver, the 200-year-old character accused of carrying off her mother and sister. The reader is never entirely convinced of Oliver's guilt, not even at the very end of the book when the male of her two is left open to all sorts of interpretation. In this regard Wilkens claims she owes a debt to Graham Greene, the late British author. "He is my total hero," she proclaims enthusiastically. "I'm sure I'm absorbed in an incredible amount from him, in particular the sadness concerning about the human condition. The man's prose is unbelievable, an example of somebody who wrote high literature but made it palatable. It's very easy to read Graham Greene." As easy, in fact, as it is to read Muriel Spark.



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The talk of Quebec

Julie Snyder aims to surprise guests and viewers

After Genie Hallsworth—better known as Ginger Spice—quit the Spice Girls last May, Julie Snyder saw her opportunity. The bubbly Quebec talk-show host headed to England with a crew from her television show *Le Ping!* Dressed in a miniskirt and orange well-trimmed with vegetables, Snyder launched her bid to become "Veggie Spice." Outside the London offices of Virgin Records, Snyder sang an offkey version of the Spice Girls hit *Wannabe* and showed off her three moves in front of a media park. Her 15 attendees (Snyder's London series didn't end there) took up the challenge for her alone. Snyder was transported to west London by bus. Police officers dressed as Queen Elizabeth II and her guard with a crown on her head. Within minutes, police swooped down to stop the crew from filming, but not before Snyder called out, "Charles! Charles! It's me! I'm going to open the door." A laughing "Joy," she says.

Zany stunts, wacky cameos and unpredictable interviews are all part of Snyder's schtick. Her unconventional approach has won a huge following in Quebec, where *Le Ping!*—a play on the French language term for "the game"—is broadcast five afternoons a week on the province's TFO network (the Friday, the network's original TAC). Snyder plays host to Quebec's top artists, newsmakers and, on occasion, political leaders, hurrying onto the set at 10:30 p.m. to host press receptions from 200 people in the Montreal studio. Afterward, the legions sing along autographs, "Always dressed in drag a la night-club show," she says. "My real challenge was to keep Quebec awake because the show is on late."

No need to worry. Now in its second season, *Le Ping!* draws an average of 775,000 viewers a night, a remarkable audience share of 37%. And an overnight display in *Le Ping!*'s production office is the CAN PMO award the program won last year as the best private television talk and variety

show in Canada. Snyder is proof of the recognition because her show is not seen outside Quebec. That will change in May when TVA will start to be carried on cable service across Canada. One of Snyder's last Genesis Awards—the French-language equivalent of the Grammys—was for her most popular hit. After she won the gold-plated statue for a 2005 interview with then-Conservative Leader Jean Chretien, he wrote a tongue-in-cheek letter responding his ball of the award. During a subsequent episode,



The TV host viewers say 'We feeling anything can happen'

she leaped on *Le Ping!*, Chretien watched in apparent disbelief as a waitress served Snyder's statue in full.

This is not a woman resting on her laurels. After a recent show, Snyder struts into her office at 10:30 a.m. and huddles with Marie-Claire, one of her two co-producers, to talk about the next day's program. As producer, Snyder is involved in most aspects of the show and considers she can be demanding. She describes Snyder as energetic and determined when it comes to landing guests. "I've never met anyone as hardworking," adds Cate. Snyder reaps praise from other

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questions. "I think she has an enormous amount of talent," says Nathalie Perreault, a colleague with La Presse. "Viewers have the feeling that anything can happen, which is nice to believe."

Snyder credits the live format with helping create that sensation. "It's more spontaneous," she says. "There are some things that happen in a live show that could never happen in a pre-taped show." A case in point: when Sophie needed to fill 10 minutes after a guest filled by show, she sent a staffer outside to find an alternate. The mom who eventually appeared was decidedly reluctant to be on TV. When Snyder asked why, he said the police would be after him because he had violated his probation by missing his 11 p.m. curfew by 15 minutes. Sophie's delight at surprising her guest. When *Toys* host Joe Clegg recently appeared with his wife, Maclean's McTee, and daughter Catherine, the host read all old McTee quotes saying that Clegg had the best sense of humour of any man she had met. "Have you any more now?" crooned Snyder. "We don't know him personally, but he doesn't look like a party animal."

The only child of an insurance broker and his wife, a medical transcriptionist, Sophie grew up in a middle-class Montreal home in a Montreal suburb. She was drama in school and even auditioned unsuccessfully for a film when she was only 12. Snyder caught the television bug after a stint in high school as a commentator for a local cable show. "It was like a fish in water," recalls Snyder. After a few gigs on other programs, she landed a spot hosting a weekly cultural show on the Quebec Sébastien network in 1986. During the first taping of *Soirée*, Snyder says she was nervous and her performance so bad that her bosses considered firing her, but decided to keep her on. Later, she won an award for her work on the show.

After *Soirée* was canceled, Snyder moved to Radio-Canada in 1989 for a summer series, *Été*. And more success. The show earned her a stardom. Once, during a newscast interview with actress Catherine Deneuve, Snyder wore a big over her hand to avoid being compared with the French beauty. Snyder, in need of a change, quit *Été* and *Soirée*. Since then, in addition to doing *Le Peigne*, she has co-produced two French-language *Ce Soir* Divas specials with the singer's husband, René Angélil.

For all her success, Snyder admits to some self-doubt. "It's very difficult for me to live with criticism," says Snyder, a perfectionist who shares her Montreal home with her cat, Miss. "But I know it's the group—you have to live with it." Still, the critics have been far more kind than cruel to Quebec's late-night talkshow diva. And Snyder's star shows no signs of waning.

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Doktor Froth has a cure for the (dis)united right

Winner, Doktor Froth, et proletariatus peripateticus of me to ferme ton ferme, including about the perimeter.

Exfoliate the easiness of your common cavity as to the phantasmagorical physiognomy of the subject.
Well, give, I can't seem to get a grip on the United Alternative conference in Ottawa.

No one can ever understand anything that happens in Ottawa. That is an endemic problem afflicting every Canadian.

How many flies should have held it somewhere else?

Yes, Moose Joe. The novel of the nation. That would have removed it from the Ottawa disease.

What is the Ottawa disease?

It's the belief that everyone who lives there—and there are only three professions: politicians, journalists, and real servants—is important. They're not.

But what is the United Alternative?

It is a concept, as ephemeral as the summer breeze, of a party that isn't successful trying to morph itself into a different name while setting out the assassinated affects of another party that's going anywhere anyway.

So you're saying the Ottawa conference, going into it with two parties, is now going to come out of it with three parties?

Basically, yes.

This is progress?

No, it's called the United Alternative. I hate it is Preston Manning's idea?

You or possibly his master, Rick Anderson, or maybe his henchmen, or possibly his tutor.

Who is Rick Anderson?

Fiercer strong Liberal. Backroom skin doctor. Convicted Preston to fit him his thick glasses for contacts, get his teeth fixed, a value factor to doctor his egoism, a tailor to adjust him to Bowmont "Touring" life and energy—sulphur!—as "the man who fits it like it is."

Huuu this work!

No. Parsons Manning still energies on TV bragging as if his jockey shorts are on too tight.



Illustration by Tom Chalkley

I think the only drawback?

No, the real drawback is that Ralph see us with her that if he goes to Ottawa, he will go alone. The reason is that he is either in love, or he has been married a long time—whatever comes first.

So what about all these men?

I mean Mrs. Klein is a very smart lady. She understands what Ottawa is all about (see above).

But she hasn't told us, if I may interrupt, where the United Alternative is going.

It's going into the great, Mawmaw in the sky Jurassic and the Person era, so wrapped up in Egg—Sarah Wrap—but they won't give up their own skeletons. Though neither has won a horse race. Then Max, wavers of Ottawa, who control everything, don't trust anyone from Alberta.

Is this fair?

Of course. This is Canada. No one in Alberta trusts anyone from Ontario. It's what makes this country great. Everyone hates everyone else.

Get, Doc, you're a great help in modifying the brainfroth. Thank nothing off it.

So what's the solution?

The solution is Stodwell Day.

Who is?

Stodwell Day (great Hollywoodish name) is Ralph Klein's finance minister. Tall, handsome. Speaks French. Used to live in Motivated. Why? Perpetuating?

What's wrong with that?

What's wrong is that Stodwell Day has firmly held views.

What's wrong with that, after all their study-study justifications?

What's wrong is that his firmly held views are really out of the Old Testament. He's got an evangelical spirit mixed up his backbone. Think of Clifford Olson should be allowed into the prison yard at extreme times so the boys could take care of him.

What's wrong with that?

Most Canadians would probably agree with him, but that type of talk does not a leader make.

Well, who are we kidding?

Stephen Harper, former deputy to Preston. Speaks French fluently. What's wrong with that?

Sure. No sense of humour. Comes across on the tube as grim. Grim we have a surplus of that, what with the Parsons and Joe. What's wrong with that?

Jeanine Clark, the man with the worst political judgment in Canada in history, thinks he can be prime minister—so does Preston. Both need to see a psychiatrist. Quickly. What about Alex Trebek?

Ralph is a former radio reporter in Calgary. Preston radio reporters in Calgary don't specialize in speaking French.



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